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ANNUAL RESOURCE GUIDE



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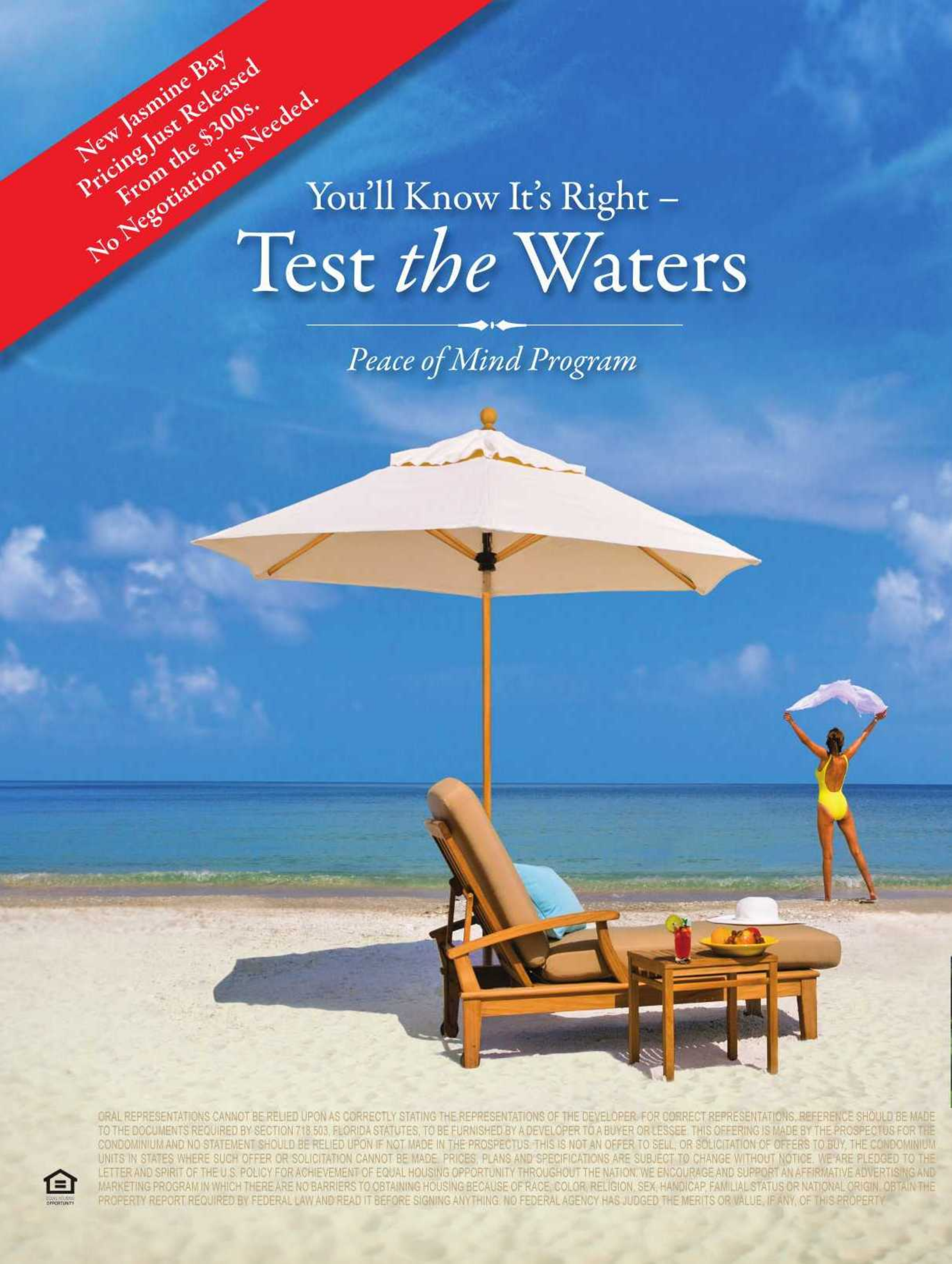












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Trends and Innovations

The Pantone Color Institute® is creator of the legendary color deck that is used by design professionals everywhere. Their Pantone™ VIEW home + interiors 2009 defines the eight most directional color palettes for home furnishings and interior design for 2009:

The palette titled ***Solar Energy*** captures the dynamic power of the sun. Variations of mandarin and flame orange remain strong for the future, with radiating gold and green-based yellows reinforcing vitality. A mulled purplish wine, fuchsia-red and electric blue add an interesting dimension to the mix, while an ashy gray provides a calming influence.

Wine Country entices with a casual way of life — a place to enjoy the connections to the earth and the goodness it yields. Rustic in feeling yet refined, the colors are re-imagined pastoral tones of taupe, olive and grapevine greens, lavender grays and sky blues combined with lusty wines.

Honesty speaks of a very real attempt at recycling – creating treasure out of what was destined to become trash and using eco-friendly vegetal and/or plant dyes. Included in the recommended mixes are unbleached whites, tender greens, clouded corals, toasty warm tans and cool gray, unexpectedly punctuated by velvety-red rose.

Discerning Tastes continues the popular theme of "modernity marries tradition." Greater importance is given to the preservation of traditional styles as they can be resurrected with newly devised finishes, colors and textures. Classic crystal, antique white, caviar black, a red mahogany, champagne beige, metallic silver and gold are the base of this elegant group, while a warm sensuous orchid adds an exotic effect.

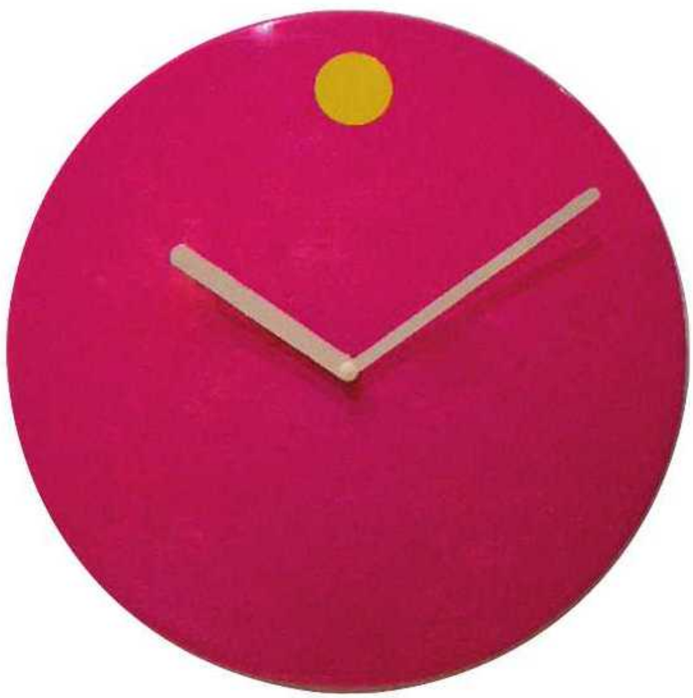
Reveries reverberates with the theme of "back in the day" – a nostalgic look at dreamy deco as pictured in old films. Many of the colors are historically accurate, as in dusted mauves and misted rose, but this palette is revamped by fashion-forward colors. Among those shades are flowering lilac and fragrant lavender, iris blue, rosy mauve and vibrant



ABOVE – This whimsical table makes use of many of the color in Pantone's®. Solar Energy palette, one of eight forecast for 2009.

BELOW – Making use of the hot fuchsia color found in the Solar Energy hues from Pantone®, this clock truly makes time fly.

OPPOSITE – The vivid colors of the Solar Energy palette from Pantone® breathe hot energy into this wall panel.



purple, unexpectedly and dramatically juxtaposed against rich russet brown.

Travel to exotic destinations, real or aspirational, continues to fascinate. The acquisition of intriguing artifacts, crafts, imagery and artworks spurs the imagination. In ***Wanderings***, dusky tones of rose, Dijon-like yellows and deepened taupe mix with both mineral and Mediterranean blues and misted gray. All shades are dramatically embellished by rich gold and scarlet red.



Cool tones inspire us to ***Breathe Easy***, a constant reminder of the clear, clean blues found in a cloudless sky sparkling over a blue-green body of water. While pure bright white and variations of the blue theme, including deep ocean and Provencal blues, permeate this palette, a deep, thoughtful garden green, a somewhat muted vegetal yellow-green, and the introduction of blue purple add a more meditative mood.

Literally defined as "a state of bringing somebody or something to life and activity," this palette titled ***Animate*** is inspired by the Japanese art of *anime*, which combines so-called clashing colors that bring a new appreciation to the vitality of truly unique color combinations. Included in this engaging group are ebullient reds, vibrant blues, mint or chartreuse next to light apricot, quiet green and deepened berry.

Sherwin-Williams has also unveiled their 2009 Lifestyle Collection that concerns itself with the latest eco-influences. The 24 hues selected by Sherwin-Williams color experts for 2009 transcend fluidly across four palettes:

While the comforts of home are undeniable, consumers can stamp a passport to a broader color journey with the ***Global Tapestry*** palette. Its exotic hues weave together a brilliant patchwork of colors inspired by many regions, including Russia, East Asia and Latin America. This palette dances a festive tango with bold shades of orange, red, gold and green; and also waltzes with balancing browns in roasted and sandy tones.

ABOVE – This palette titled Solar Energy from Pantone® figuratively captures the dynamic power inherent in the sun, depicting the rays of color that have come to symbolize an alternative to fossil fuels. Variations of mandarin and flame orange remain strong for the future, with radiating gold and green-based yellows reinforcing vitality. A mulled purplish wine, fuchsia-red and electric blue add an interesting dimension to the mix, while an ashy gray provides a calming neutral influence to this volatile mix.

OPPOSITE – The exotic hues in the Global Tapestry palette weave together a brilliant patchwork of colors inspired by many regions, including Russia, East Asia and Latin America. This palette dances a festive tango with bold shades of orange, red, gold and green; and also waltzes with balancing browns in roasted and sandy tones.Colors in this palette include: Gambol Gold (SW 6690), Alexandrite (SW 0060), Tigereye (SW 6362), Enticing Red (SW 6600), Umber (SW 6146) and Basket Beige (SW 6143). Available at Sherwin-Williams stores in Naples, Bonita Springs and Fort Myers. For more information, visit www.sherwin-williams.com.





The heart of the ***Local Momentum*** is a palette inspired by the handiwork of local artisans and the beauty of the natural resources that abound in all of our communities. Shades of urban eco-rooftops inspire the grassy and yellow greens in this palette, while the tranquility of water and sky stir a serene blue. The influence of raw natural materials like sand and wood are also found in this palette's neutral hues.

The ***Conscious Luxury*** palette draws its inspiration from

THIS PAGE – Technology is not only expanding our reach worldwide, it is also extending the world of design. Catch the next color wave with the eye-catching pinks, blue and green in this collection, then go industrial with concrete and stainless-steel grays. Bright colors are a key element, providing a dramatic contrast when used with the darker, more subdued tones that are also part of this palette. Colors in the Techno-Color palette include: Hep Green (SW 6704), Gauntlet Gray (SW 7019), Zircon (SW 7667), Ruby Shade (SW 6572), Zany Pink (SW 6858) and Reflecting Pool (SW 6486).Available at Sherwin-Williams stores in Naples, Bonita Springs and Fort Myers. For more information, visit www.sherwin-williams.com.

OPPOSITE – Local Momentum is inspired by the handiwork of local artisans and the beauty of the natural resources that abound in all of our communities. Shades of urban, eco-rooftops inspire the grassy and yellow greens in the Local Momentum palette, while the tranquility of water and sky stir a serene blue. And the influence of raw, natural materials like sand and wood are found in this palette's neutral hues.Colors in Local Momentum include: Lemon Verbena (SW 7726), Grandiose (SW 6404), Wool Skein (SW 6148), Mesa Tan (SW 7695), Black Fox (SW 7020) and Aqua-Sphere (SW 7613). Available at Sherwin-Williams stores in Naples, Bonita Springs and Fort Myers. For more information, visit www.sherwin-williams.com.



this new twist on design – environmental consciousness -- evoking a feeling of luxury and sophistication, while also reflecting a conscious investment in preserving our surrounding landscape. This palette blushes with sophisticated, cosmetic-inspired pinks, purples and a blue that reflect the brilliant sheen of conflict-free gemstones.

With fiber technologies such as linen, bamboo and hemp on the rise, colors of these natural materials are giving eco-fashion and home décor a new look. The ***Techno-Color*** palette draws inspiration from the new color possibilities that technology creates. Catch the next color wave with the eye-catching pinks, blue and green in this palette, then go industrial with concrete and stainless-steel grays. Bright colors are a key element, providing a dramatic contrast when used with the darker, more subdued tones that are also part of this palette.

Metallics, a bold choice, are in vogue in furniture, accessories, wallpapers and window coverings. Celebrity Designer Libby Langdon likes to remind her clients that metallics may best be used as an accent shade. A quiet shade of silvery gray is lovely combined with what Langdon sees as her clients' most popular new colors; purple, mauve and soft pink. She also continues to see chocolate brown as the "new black".

Here's to a colorful new year!

Written by Kitt Walsh

Photography by courtesy of Pantone Color Institute®, Sherwin-Williams and the manufacturers.

MARKET PLACE



◀ Magnetic Leather Tiles: An innovative wall & floor covering system made out of beautiful leather tiles, Magnetic Leather Tiles creates a unique and elegant look to the walls of your home. Available in a variety of colors and raw materials like "crocodile" shown here, Magnetic Leather Tiles are quick and easy to install, with no grout needed. For more information, visit www.themagneticleathertiles.com.

Jamie Harris Onda: New this year are the elegant Onda glass bottles from Jamie Harris Studio. These 35" tall hand-blown glass bottles by New York artist Jamie Harris exhibit modern design in their sensuous, organic flowing shapes. Available in any custom color, shown here in brown, amber, and black, these decorative bottles capture the fluidity and movement of molten glass. Available at www.jamieharris.com. ▶





◀ Annieglass: This year, Annieglass gives a nod to nature's brilliance with solid lustrous matte gold leaves with delicate "veins" of clear glass peeking through. Fantastic bread and butter or dessert plates, they make lovely gifts all year-round and are also the perfect corporate gift. Retail Price: $50. For information, visit www.annieglass.com.

Oceana Alina: The Alina Sunburst is one of four free-form styles offered in the Aina Art Collection. The Alina Art Glass Collection becomes a one-of-a-kind signed masterpiece, created by free-formed molten glass and each individually signed by the artist to assure authenticity and the utmost quality. JSG Oceana free-formed art glass brings unique beauty and versatility to any home decor. Used as a centerpiece, a serving dish, or even a decorative vase, the Alina Sunburst will take your breath away. The Alina Sunburst is available online at www.jsgoceana.com. ▶





◀ Celadon Vases & Antique Burmese Mounted Wheel: Classic hand-made porcelain antique reproductions produced exactly as they were 600 years ago. Each piece is hand-thrown with a raised hand-applied relief detail, which is then hand-painted in celadon. Classic Chinese shapes in straight neck, meiping, and gourd. These look equally good in both traditional and modern settings. Actual antique wheels collected from carts in the countryside become dramatic sculptural pieces when presented on a museum mount. The aged wood surfaces convey the antiquity of each piece and every axle hole is different, showing great diversity for something as simple as a wheel. Available at www.Lillianaugust.com.

Accessories

Sustainable luxury in the comfort of your own home is what Lulan™ Artisans, provides with the new Luminescence Box Pillow. Offered in warm shades such as Earth, Copper, Gold, and Brown, these pillows retail for $285. Lulan, producers of luxurious yet sustainable textiles for the home, crafted these 100% raw silk, hand-woven pieces, teaming up with local artisans in Southeast Asia. The Box Pillows are designed using natural and low-impact dyes and all-natural materials that are overall better for the environment. Lulan products are available through designer showrooms. For more information, call (843) 722-0118 or visit www.lulan.com.





Pierre Frey introduces Esteban, a collection of pillows and throws inspired by the traditional folkloric decorative patterns of South America. Cotton, infused with bright colors such as turquoise and fuchsia, runs through the entire collection. Pillows have a down blend insert. The Esteban collection is available through local designers and more information may be obtained by calling Design Professionals at (212) 759-6894.

Silk pillows from Siw Thai Silk, Inc. offer a new spin on a traditional Thai style. In popular neutral and on-trend colors, the metallic and pearl essence sheen of the hand-woven silk adds a luxurious luster to each of the 15 color options available. The pillows may be placed as an elegant and modern aesthetic in a formal decor, or serve as a spirited and whimsical accessory in a more casual interior. All hand-woven, Thai silk is filled with kapok, a natural fiber. For more information, visit www.SiwThaiSilk.com.





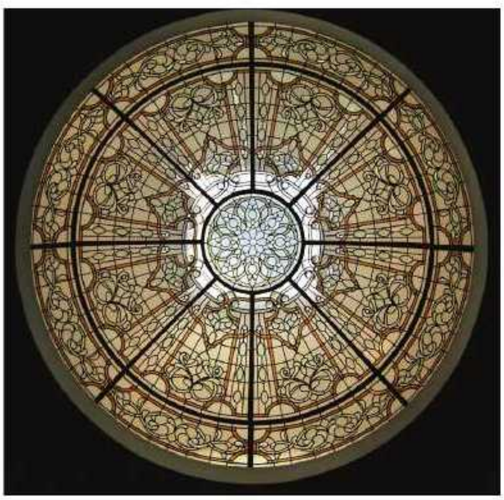
Blissliving Kennedy Bed: Like a broad view from the Amalfi Coast, our Kennedy Duvet Set ripples out in symmetrical stripes of vivid sapphire blues. Designed to please him or her, each wide stripe is printed with an ombre technique creating the illusion of dimension. Shams are printed with a matching design to complete the clean and contemporary look. Duvet and shams reverse to solid cotton sateen in deep petrol blue. Now available at Blissliving Home's online boutique, www.blisslivinghome.com or by calling (866) 952-5477.

Architectural Design

Add impact to any room with a custom designed leaded glass dome or ceiling. Solarium Design Group Ltd. domes are true works of art blending old world craftsmanship with timeless aesthetic sensibilities. 'Contemporary classic' best describes the flowing scrollwork, organic flourish and crisp geometry that instantly identify a leaded glass dome from Solarium Design Group. All projects are custom projects and are hand-drawn, hand-cut and hand built. Visit www.solariumglassdomes.com for more information or call (888) 366-3505.



Jewel-like Ceiling: This 17' x 11 Oval dome by Solarium Design Group Ltd. is in a private residence includes hundreds of beveled glass details and imported German glass jewels.



Celestial Dome: An elegant grayscale palette was created by Solarium Design Group Ltd. by using various textured clear glass in this 12' diameter x 4' height dome in a private residence.



Glorious Skylight: Solarium Design Group Ltd. created this intricate 8' diameter x 3' dome in a private residence.

BATH

Fine cut and polished, the Ametys freestanding bathtub is designed with an acrylic contour skirt and can be customized with a square whirlpool system, Mass-air and Activ-air, combinations of all jet systems and all other Produits Neptune options. The minimalist bathtub gets a warm dose of personality, thanks to an optional Spanish cedar base, trim and tray. Based in Saint-Hyacinthe, Quebec with distribution throughout the United States, Produits Neptune has emerged as a leader in the bath industry with their innovative product line, which is based on a unique design philosophy rooted in simplicity. For more information, visit www.bathroomsfromneptune.com.





JacloQuadro: Bring the high-fashion style of a decorative lamp into the shower. The new Lumiere showerheads Tondo and Quadro by JACLO are composed of a patterned semi-transparent cover in several different designs and colors with built-in LED lights. The showerhead is constructed of stainless steel. For more information, visit www.jaclo.com.

"Fingerprint of Nature" is what Ludovica and Roberto Palomba call their designs for the Palomba Collection, by Laufen. The items in this new collection are imaginative and organic, and it is referred to by the designers as the "temporal ebb and flow" of various complementary elements. The forms are quite unusual for ceramic as a material. For instance, the asymmetrical washbasin looks like a desk top floating from the wall; however the basin is gently set into the countertop like a lagoon. In contrast to the strict geometry of the panel, the basin assumes an organic kidney shape. In addition to the assorted washbasins, bathtubs, toilets and the like matching furniture and mirrors complete the collection. To see the entire Palomba collection visit www.laufen.com.



Bath



The new KOHLER DTV II Custom Showering Experience controls sound, chromatherapy and a steam component for a fully personalized, holistic sensory experience. With the new KOHLER WaterTile Ambient Rain, the custom shower now incorporates ambient chromatherapy light patterns with WaterTile showerheads to provide a sense of openness and peripherally perceived ambient lighting in the shower space as the ceiling virtually disappears. The DTV II system can incorporate audio with the new KOHLER SoundTile speakers. The high-fidelity SoundTile shower speakers are fully waterproof and designed to perfectly match the shape, profile and finish of Kohler's iconic WaterTile bodysprays and showerheads. For additional information, please go to kohler.com or call (800) 4KOHLER.

KOHLER Fountainhead VibrAcoustic bath: Four VibrAcoustic experiences envelop the bather in a multi-sensory environment that synchronizes music, vibration and light with water. Transducers producing music/vibrations are strategically placed on the backside of the bath, both above and below the water, allowing the bather to not only hear but also feel the music. A user-friendly, digital DTV Bath interface controls all features and affords bathers the option of listening to a favorite play list from a MP3 player or a radio station from a home computer. Synchronized lighting is another relaxing element that completes the well-rounded bathing experience. The four lights in the bath can create eight different colors and myriad color combinations and patterns. A color dial even allows bathers to choose a particular hue of each color. The lights will also align themselves with the rhythm of the music. Available at Ferguson Kitchen & Bath Gallery in Fort Myers and Ferguson Kitchen & Bath Gallery in Fort Myers and Naples. For additional information, please go to kohler.com or call (800) 4KOHLER.





The new Versatile Collection from Sonia represents limitless possibilities. Offering numerous mix and match options, the modular furniture collection can be created by pairing a frame, with a console and countertop. The Versatile Collection features multi-layer, marine-grade wood, which is 100% water resistant and glass panels featuring numerous color options or a graphic motif adorned to the front of the console for personalized style. While many of the configurations are wall-mount, stainless steel legs can be added as well. The collection is offered in differing sizes and pairs with various Sonia integral countertops to meet several space and design sensibilities; reflecting metropolitan lifestyle in its most stylish form. View online at www.sonia-sa.com.

Stone Forest's minimalist pedestal sink in stunning multi-colored onyx. An elegant oval column carved out of a solid block of multi-colored onyx, this pedestal is a spacious and alluring design with a beautiful basin shaped into the top. The entire fixture accentuates the tone of the rock and the curves of the design. Also available in carrara marble and black granite. For more information, visit www.stoneforest.com.



Cabinetry



Double Jewelry Trays - Closets have become dressing rooms and are designed accordingly with a host of new space saving features like double jewelry trays, mirrors, safes, hampers and ironing boards. For more information, call Royal Palm Closets at (239) 768-2391.

Flooring



French Quarter from Karastan's Sierra Mar Collection is a striking pattern-on-pattern design from Karastan's Sierra Mar Collection. A mélange of colors creates the stunning striated underlay, which is topped with an ornamental display inspired by the hand-forged ironworks of New Orleans. The style is offered in two colorways from the Sierra Mar palette: Bluestone #35505-33016 (shown)—a mix of robin's egg blue and limestone and Henna #35505-33017—spicy tones of henna and browns. A full range of sizes is now available at Robb & Stucky in Naples. For more information, visit www.karastan.com.

Furniture



Imagine buying a bed whose price is based on the current price of gold! Yes, one has to check the gold market to determine the current cost of a Grande Venetian 10-foot-wide bed from Phyllis Morris Originals – a company that has been building furniture by hand since 1953. The almost eight-foot-high Corinthian column bedposts and the entire headboard and footboard are covered with 22K gold leaf or, for that matter, any custom finish or in any size. Among the options are a plasma television screen that lifts from the footboard and having one's monogram or family crest carved into the headboard and footboard shields. From mansions in Moscow to estates in Florida, Phyllis Morris furniture is found in homes around the world. A 22K gold-leaf bed in this size (10' wide x 9' deep) starts at $60,000 (mattresses and bedding are additional). For more information, visit www.phyllismorris.com or by call (310) 289-6868. Phyllis Morris' silk-bound, limited edition catalog weighs 8 lbs. and is available for $250.

Home Security



Battery Operated Shutters: No electricity necessary. Power outages are no problem. The shutters operate on a chargable battery. The *Smart Drive* controller can operate in excess of 50 shutter operations in a single charge, depending on the shutter size, and can control mulitple shutters. The shutters are available for openings up to 70 sq. ft. For larger openings, manually-operated, spring-assisted shutters are available. For more information, contact Storm Shutter Warehouse at (239) 278-1118. Photo courtesy of QMI

Kitchen



The Libero collection by ALNO is a sophisticated combination of design, function and convenience. Libero elements can be paired with ALNO Home or Lifestyle kitchens to create a seamless transition from kitchen to living area. Included in the Libero collection are zoom units with roller shutters made of frosted or clear glass. The corner units with frosted glass doors and colored lighting make a great end to a run of units. The window side unit hides more than is apparent at first glance. It is enclosed in a stylish display cabinet, which, when opened, reveals a bevy of storage space. There is also a screen wall unit, which is a 17" ad-notam flat screen that is located on the back of the mirrored or glass door. The picture is flawless, and the sound is transmitted through flat speakers. The inside of the unit can be used for storage. View at www.alnousa.com.



Brizo®, the fashion-forward faucet brand for the kitchen and bath, recently unveiled an innovative kitchen faucet at the leading edge of both design and technology. The Belo™ pull-down kitchen faucet portrays confidence with its elegant form, while providing a superior experience in both functionality and durability. Belo features three innovative, technologies including a four-function, pull-out wand offering stream, spray, volume and pause control functions, MagneDock™ magnetic docking system, and DIAMOND™ Seal Technology, a breakthrough innovation in water delivery for faucets. Available at Ferguson Enterprises in Naples and Fort Myers. For more information, visit www.brizo.com.





Julien re-invents the kitchen sink once again with the introduction of the new J7 Collection. The new concept is a hybrid of geometric modern design together with the requirements and necessity of a commercial kitchen sink. The J7's name represents the key feature of Julien's revolutionary design; 7mm tight radius (interior) corners. Each transitional joint is a precision welded 7mm radius, allowing easy maintenance and clean-up of the sink. The current collection is available in several sized undermount configurations with single and double bowls in variable depths. Available through Ferguson Enterprises in Naples & Fort Myers. For more information, visit www.julien.ca.

Liebherr's new 2062 Series of 36" refrigerators are the most eco-friendly and efficient large capacity refrigerators on the market. Choose from free-standing (pictured), stainless integrated and fully integrated models for the custom kitchen. For more information, visit www.liebherr-appliances.com.



KOHLER Karbon kitchen faucet: Drawing inspiration from lighting and construction equipment, the KOHLER Karbon kitchen faucet features articulating joints. Unlike other kitchen faucets, the Karbon faucet will maintain the exact position where a user places it within its allotted reach in or outside the sink, keeping the sprayhead and water flow exactly where it's desired. The new KOHLER Karbon faucet utilizes carbon fiber and articulating joints to bring the ultimate in functionality to the kitchen. Paired with a joystick valve, this faucet boasts a sleek, contemporary design. The design matches perfectly with the growing popularity of contemporary style. For additional information, please go to kohler.com or call (800) 4KOHLER.





Miele innovation and quality are built into each Independence™ Series preservation product, creating truly unique solutions that safely maintain food and wine without sacrificing freshness, texture or body. As expected, Miele refrigerators, freezers and wine storage systems are crafted using only the highest-grade materials, cutting-edge cooling technology and Miele's proprietary electronics. For more information, visit www.miele.com.

Innovation was at the forefront of the creative minds at Native Trails when they produced the Luna bar/prep sink. This sink is not only functional but eye catching as well and is sure to strike up a conversation or two. The Luna comes in Antique or Brushed Nickel. Available at Ferguson Enterprises in Naples or Fort Myers. For more information, visit www.nativetrails.net.





The newly redesigned 30"W. Viking Custom Dual Fuel Range is the initial product redesign of the entire line of Viking dual fuel ranges, which will give consumers more options than ever before in regard to look, function and performance. New exterior design features includes updated grate styling, zinc die-cast knobs with updated chrome bezel, and laser-etched control panel graphics. These ranges also have a full-width, larger diameter oven door handle, and a larger window in the door allows consumers to get a better view of their dishes as they cook. For more information, visit www.VikingRange.com.

Lighting



Grotto Shell Chandelier: From Curry & Co, this intricately-detailed chandelier of natural shells with imposing size and presence. It never ceases to amaze with its sheer quantity of shells. 12 Lights 32" rd x 45"h Finish: Natural Shell. Suggested retail: $2,400. Avaialble at Agostino's in Naples. For more information, visit www.curreycodealers.com.

Fine Arts Perspectives Collection is inspired by the geometric interplay of angular forms whose beauty is the phenomenon of perspective. In the spirit of the modernist movement in architecture, the rectilinear forms seem to float. As one moves around the pieces, the ever-changing spatial relationships fascinate the eye. Sculptural and structural, the lighting forms are a strong visual focal point. Shown is the eight-light chandelier in a patinated golden bronze finish with shades of multi-tonal gold organza. For more information, visit www.fineartlamps.com.





Stray Dog Artichoke Lamp in Bahaman Sea Blue, designed by Jane Gray for Stray Dog Designs. Handmade of paper mache from recycled materials by artisans in Haiti who are paid a living wage. In white or 13 beautiful colors -- all in low VOC paints from the Benjamin Moore Aura collection. Stray Dog Designs products can be purchased at Summerfield's in Naples and at Lulu's Gift Emporium, Inc. in Fort Myers.

Autumnal" and Equinox: Typically around September 23, the Equinox is when day and night are nearly the same length. Farmers prepare to harvest their crops ahead of the blustery winter. The winds blow away the dark green colors, leaving a gold and brown landscape. This work is emblematic of that time of year. Olive green glaze canteen vase ceramic lamp by Frederick Cooper. Off white fabric oval tuck-under shade with trim. Ht. 25" Shade 12 x 19" oval, 3 Way-150W. For more information, visit www.frederickcooper.com.



Outdoor Living

Enjoy the Kenyon Custom All Seasons Grill for smokeless indoor or outdoor cooking with no open flames and easy clean-up. Simple to use and safe to operate with a built-in 120V cord complete with GFCI, the Kenyon Custom All Seasons Grill is an award-winning and patent pending unit that is available in built-in and portable models and is made in USA by Kenyon International in Clinton, CT. For more information, visit www.kenyonappliances.com and, www.kenyoncookingsolutions.com for videos of Chef John cooking on the Kenyon Custom All Seasons Grill.





The Crescent Lounge, aptly named for its brilliant cascading oversized parasol top, redefines luxury and comfort in any outdoor environment. It is flanked by four crescent shaped ottomans that stretch the lounging capacity of this unique outdoor room. Riding on more than 100 square feet of plush cushions, throw pillows, sheer drapery and full open-air shade coverage, the enjoyment of nature's elements has never been so relaxing. Constructed of TUUCI's Armor-Wall-Aluminum framework, stainless steel hardware and marine-grade components, the Crescent Lounge is suited to withstand any outdoor environment. As a private relaxation oasis, it is intended to be used directly on the beach, poolside or even rooftop while secured to adequate deck mounts. TUUCI products are available at Casual Sources in Naples or visit, www.TUUCI.com or call (866) 848-0333.

Feel like you are in your personal cabana with Rio, an exquisitely and freshly modern collection crafted in a double open-weave, making it easy for light and soft breezes to penetrate the curved sides and back, in a Blonde finish. Available at Brown's Interiors and Wicker Showroom in Naples and Carl's Patio and Fine Furniture By Gordons in Fort Myers. For more information, visit www.whitecraft.net.



Wall & Window

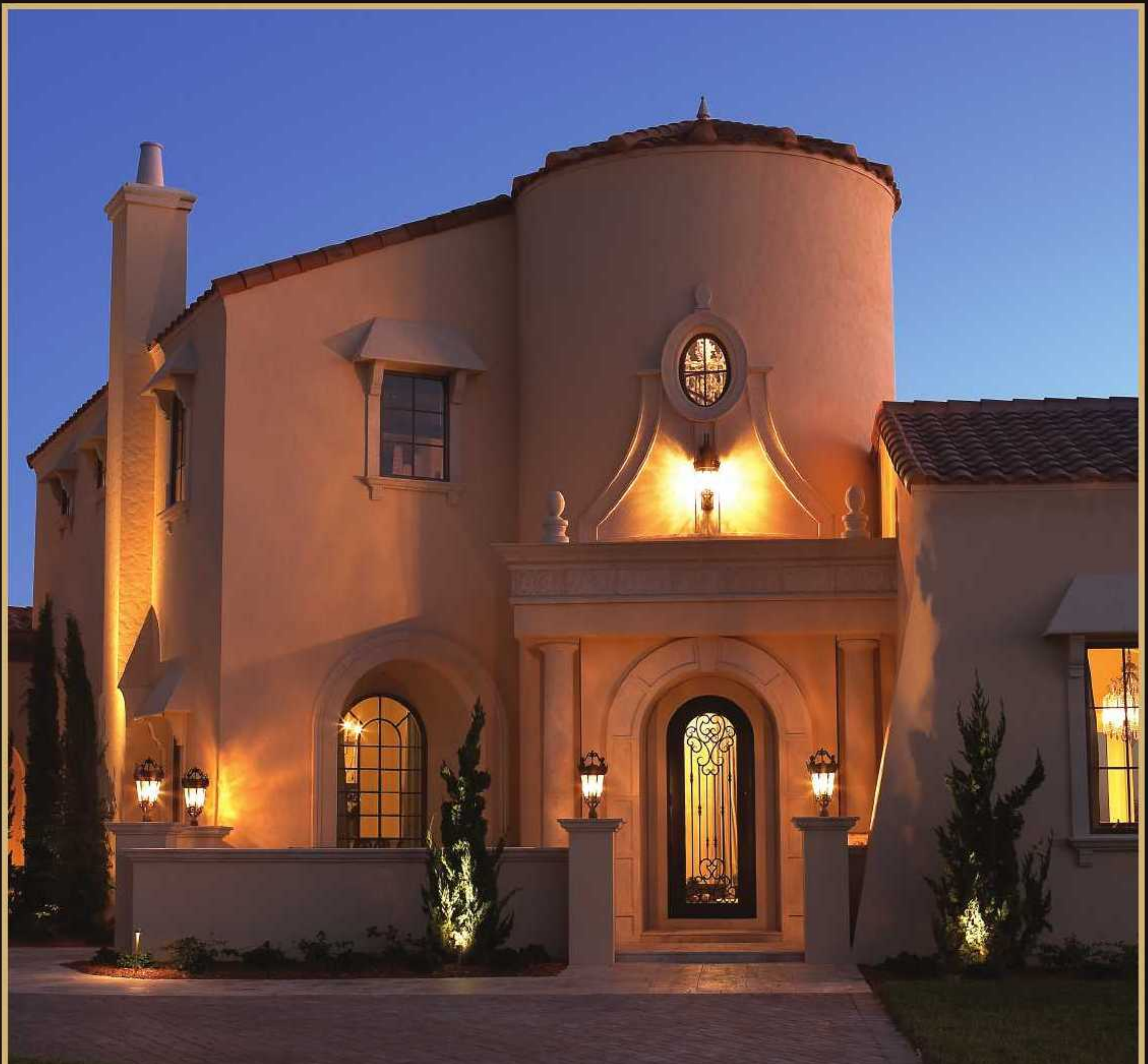


WallPops from Brewster Home Fashions is releasing a new line of its most versatile peel-and-stick, repositionable and removable wall art this "Fall" featuring both farm and safari animals called *ZooWallogy*. The animals are packaged with one 26" x 39" sheet that includes a variety of art, ranging from 10 to 25 pieces, depending on the particular setting. Fun facts about each animal are featured in the package to educate children about the particular animals. *ZooWallogy* WallPops are available available at Home Depots nationwide. For more information, visit www.wall-pops.com.

The U.S. Department of Energy says that you can lose, from 10 to 25 percent of your heating and cooling costs through your windows. New Duette® Architella™ honeycomb shades from Hunter Douglas, feature a patented honeycomb-within-honeycomb design, which provides more air pockets than traditional cellular shades, for greater insulation. They can reduce the amount of heat going through your windows by up to 50 percent – lowering utility bills as well. For more information, contact Hunter Douglas at (800) 274-2985 or visit www.hunterdouglas.com.

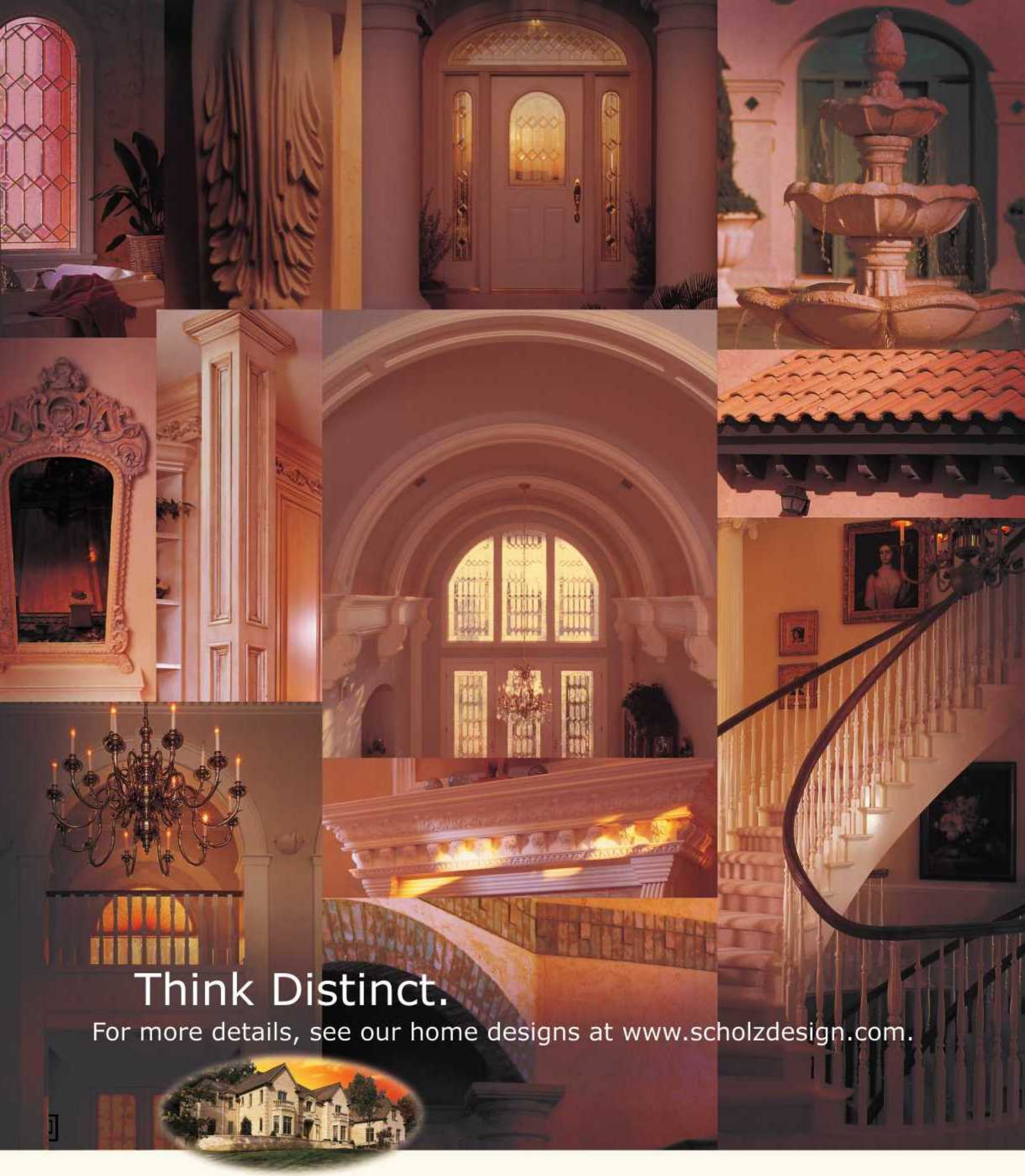


Architecture



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GREEN LUXURY

THE LA TORRE MODEL, DESIGNED BY RICHARD Guzman of RG Designs, Inc., is 4,202 total square feet of that rarest of pairings, opulence plus efficiency. The home, located in Cape Coral's Tarpon Point Marina has three-bedrooms plus a den and bonus room, three-full baths, two-half baths and is both lovely and comfortable, combining a bit of Spanish Mission styling with a few contemporary California flourishes. Certified as a "Green Home," the whole house makes use of energy-efficient materials and systems, such as a whole house dehumidifier, Icene spray insulation, energy-efficient air conditioning, pool pumps and appliances, and natural stone surfaces throughout.

A pavered motorcourt leads past lavish landscaping to reach the three-car garage with convenient golf cart storage. The varying roofline is accented by barrel tiles, top arched doors, leaded windows, and a double front door of mahogany.

Through those doors lies the simple, yet breathtaking, parlor. Floor-to-ceiling windows, topped by transoms, direct the eye upward toward masterful crown moulding to a ceiling of hand-scraped Santa Barbara walnut in a diamond pattern, mimicking the semi-circular shape of the room, and matching the wood of the floor below. Crown moulding makes another star appearance above the see-through Black Absolute fireplace and the leaded glass windows looking into the study beyond this room. A pair of antique crushed velvet sofas and an armchair, surround a circular coffee table of ▸

ABOVE – The La Torre model, designed by Richard Guzman of RG Designs, Inc., is 4,202 total square feet of that rarest of pairings, opulence plus efficiency. Certified as a "Green Home," the whole house makes use of energy-efficient materials and systems.





mahogany. A dark floral Oriental rug serves as a perfect foil for the light sage furniture and an abstract print above the mantel ties the colors of the room together. Overhead an iron chandelier is topped with copper-toned shades for lighting the scene below.

The less formal leisure room at the back of the house, featuring Gold Quartzite stone floors (as through much of the home,) and zero glass pocketing doors, overlooks the canal and leads to the pillared portico. Painted a warm buttery yellow, the ceiling is the room's focal point, with wood beams painted ivory adding an interesting dimension to the space. Shiny cotton draperies of soft tan frame the spectacular



ABOVE – Sage green porcelain tiles form a gorgeous backsplash in the kitchen, and an island, topped with beautiful grey marble, affords convenient working space for any chef.

OPPOSITE ABOVE – Floor-to-ceiling windows, topped by transoms, direct the eye upward toward masterful crown moulding to a ceiling of hand-scraped Santa Barbara walnut in a diamond pattern, mimicking the semi-circular shape of the parlor.

OPPOSITE BELOW – The less formal leisure room at the back of the house, featuring Gold Quartzite stone floors and zero glass pocketing doors, overlooks the canal and leads to the pillared portico.

view. An ivory chenille sofa, rattan-and-cane backed chairs, (covered in woven raffia fabric of pear green,) and a sea grass rug all provide lovely neutral shades designed not to compete with the view. A splash of color is provided by the russet-hued and botanical print sofa pillows and the burnished gloss of the low wooden coffee table.

Transom windows overlook maple cabinetry interspersed with leaded glass doors. Sage green porcelain tiles form a gorgeous backsplash in the space, and a kitchen island, topped with beautiful grey marble, affords convenient working space for any chef. The floor is of beautiful and durable marble and a full pantry hides behind cabinetry doors. The SubZero/Thermador appliance package includes a convection oven, and clear glass hurricane candelabra lights, suspended from the painted beamed ceiling, add light to the work below. One of the main features of the home, according to residential designer Rich Guzman of RG Designs, is found here in the kitchen. Here, extra seating is provided by the wooden stools, the seats of which are covered in wheat fabric, pulled up to the marble counter.

"Many areas of the home are used for dining--not just, what in other homes, is called the 'formal dining room,'" says Guzman. "This counter in the kitchen takes the place of a breakfast room and the dining room *(not shown)* may be used for a quick lunch, a snack or a dinner party. With its ▸





view of the canal at the back of the home, its a great area for enjoying at any time."

The lavish master bedroom is a veritable jewel box with a palette of creams and golds and silvers. A custom-designed grid of crown moulding, from which hangs a silvery-branched candelabra chandelier, sets the tone for this charming, yet intricate, room. Floor-to-ceiling windows, the transoms above, and French doors leading out to the portico, are all embraced in ivory crown moulding, enhancing the view and adding depth to the room. A bay-windowed nook is home to a crushed velvet antique chaise in a nutmeg shade. Crystal lamps with linen shades are perfect for reading. The king-size bed has an upholstered headboard of natural linen and a duvet cover of snowy silk. Green and silver textured silk pillows adorn the bed and a bench, covered in pale ivory velvet, is a useful surface when dressing. Twin prints, framed in pale celadon, bring a faint hint of color to the room also.

A custom wrought iron railing graces the stairway to the second floor bonus room. Under the stairs is concealed a climate-controlled wine storage room and the landing of the stairs has built-in art niches, useful for displaying collectibles, like the antique urns shown. Transom windows light the



ABOVE – A custom wrought iron railing graces the stairway to the second floor bonus room. Under the stairs is concealed a climate-controlled wine storage room and the landing of the stairs has built-in art niches, useful for displaying collectibles, like the antique urns shown.

OPPOSITE ABOVE – The lavish master bedroom is a veritable jewel box with a palette of creams and golds and silvers.

OPPOSITE BELOW – The master bath continues the luxurious ambiance of the master suite with glazed ivory French provincial cabinetry and twin sinks with gold fixtures and pulls.

stairs and an arch-topped window is found near the door to the elevator-ready space, perfect for handicapped accessibility. The bonus room itself brings a bit of San Francisco's Asian influence to the home, with a gold flat-textured chenille covering the sofa, a rattan and bamboo coffee table topped with a Chinese porcelain piece, and embroidered pillows and plants to add a touch of color. An antique secretary and rush-backed chair create a private nook for correspondence and the grass cloth wall continues the Asian theme. A box-beamed ceiling mimics the heavier beams on the ceilings below.

The master bath continues the luxurious ambiance of the master suite with glazed ivory French provincial cabinetry and twin sinks with gold fixtures and pulls. A huge mirror, bisected with moulding, is set under an expansive crown moulding detail and a double-doored closet provides ample storage. The oval jetted tub is encased in Saturnia, and the Crema Marfil polished marble floor has Inca Gold hand-honed mosaic tiles bordering it. A separate walk-in shower just beyond features a bench and hand-held nickel fixtures. The arch-topped window behind the tub gives a view of the outdoor shower and the French door leads to the private courtyard where it is found. A black metal and crystal pendant chandelier adds a final touch of elegance to the room.

The earth-toned guest room has, as its focal point, a rectangular divided accent wall comprised of moulding and woven raffia, backed with grass cloth, in a natural shade. The king-size bed with its quilted cotton pumpkin duvet and accent pillow of pumpkin, ivory, russet and brown, bring a splash of color. A convenient ivory and black secretary proves useful and sets off both the ivory chest, used as ▸



nightstand on the opposite side and the pen-and-ink etchings framed in black above the bed. A retro-look cylindrical light, with banded linen shade, provides artificial light while



striped draperies of pumpkin and cream cotton frame a view to the sundeck, letting natural light into the room.

A relaxed grouping of rattan and teak chairs with cushions of striped tone-on-tone durable cotton, flank a teak-topped table on the covered poolside portico. A tongue-and-groove cypress ceiling plays host to a palm ceiling fan, adding to the delightful breezes from the canal. A complete outdoor kitchen--featuring a wet bar, refrigerator, and grill--make outdoor entertaining a delight.

At the rear of the home is the abstract pool with its dramatic dark Navaho Blue bottom and negative edge, giving the illusion that the pool spills off into the canal just beyond. The pool design includes stools, set in the pool itself, to allow the bartender to serve guests at their watery perches. A separate spa affords expansive canal views. Paved in tumbled Travertine, the pool area is accessible from the parlor, master bedroom, study, and dining rooms. The





ABOVE & BELOW – At the rear of the home is the abstract pool with its dramatic dark Navaho Blue bottom and negative edge, giving the illusion that the pool spills off into the canal just beyond.

OPPOSITE ABOVE – The earth-toned guest room has, as its focal point, a rectangular divided accent wall comprised of moulding and woven raffia, backed with grass cloth, in a natural shade.

OPPOSITE BELOW – A tongue-and-groove cypress ceiling plays host to a palm ceiling fan, adding to the delightful breezes from the canal, on the portico. A complete outdoor kitchen--featuring a wet bar, refrigerator, and grill--make outdoor entertaining a delight.

upstairs bonus room and bedroom suite also have views of this tranquil area.

The La Torre model is offered at $ 4.95 million. ♦

Designed by RG Designs, Inc
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Bonita Springs, FL 34134
239 949-2929
www.rgdesignsinc.com
Interior Design by Godfrey Design Consultants, Inc.
Built By BCB Homes

Written by Kitt Walsh

Photography by Laurence Taylor,
Taylor Architectural Photography.







Photography Courtesy of Warner Photography

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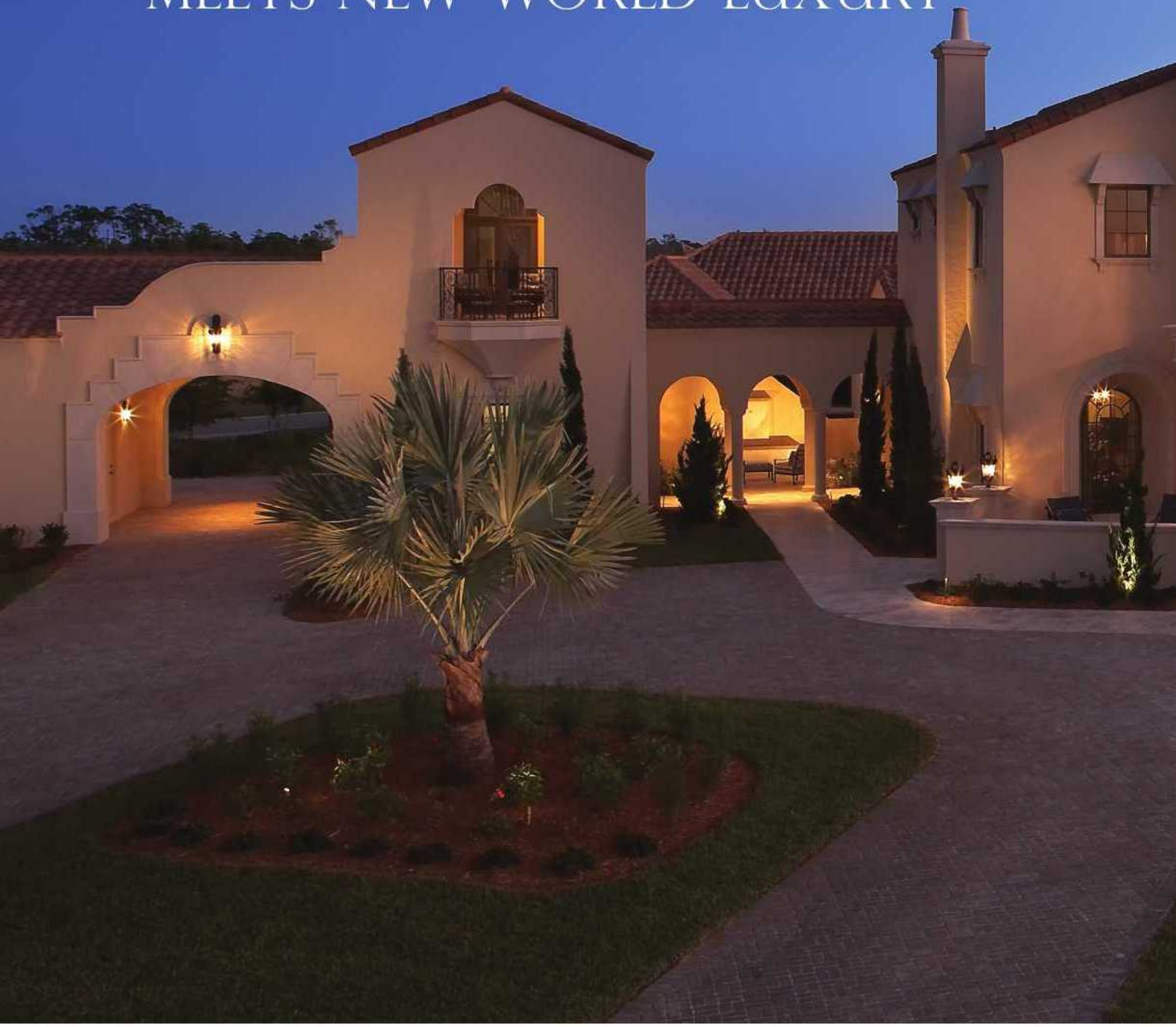
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OLD WORLD ARTISTRY MEETS NEW WORLD LUXURY



THE VILLA ANDALUSIA IS THE SECOND CASTILIAN STYLE model featured by Michelangelo Homes. Located in the Villa Lago neighborhood of Fort Myers' Renaissance community, the 4,624 square feet under air masterpiece abounds with delightful surprises.

The architecture of the Villa Andalusia sets it apart from its neighbors by virtue of its unique rooflines -- highlighted by barrel tiles, adobe-style chimneys, cylindrical second-story design, and arched and oval windows.

The pavered driveway leads to two separate garages



ABOVE – The architecture of the Villa Andalusia sets it apart from its neighbors by virtue of its unique rooflines -- highlighted by barrel tiles, adobe-style chimneys, cylindrical second-story design, and arched and oval windows.

beneath an arched opening to the motorcourt--a double-car owner's garage and a single-car garage for guests. Through the wrought iron entry door, set in a small courtyard with roofed entryway, lies a circular foyer and, just beyond the enchanting living room. ▸



The silvery blue walls provide a perfect palette for the ivory wood and glass-fronted antique secretary; the two rattan and cane side chairs, covered in tone-on-tone stripes of robin's egg blue; the studded pewter sofa, set off with lambs wool and striped silk pillows of chocolate and silver; and the blue print linen armchair. The side table has an iron base and a mother-of-pearl top, while the coffee table is gold-leafed wood with a glass insert and iron stretchers. The draperies are of navy blue silk. The rug sports the blues, creams and yellows typical of Provence and above the honed limestone fireplace rests a mirrored sun, reflecting the light from the iron chandelier, dripping in sparking crystal.

Up a few steps and through an arched opening is the study, also in tones of blue, perfect for reflection. The limestone fireplace is topped by a reeded disc and flanked by driftwood branches, hearkening to the beaches of France. The carpet below, resting on the gleaming hardwood floor of hand-scraped walnut is cousin to the one in the living room and the ceiling is fauxed with paper and boxed with cypress wood beams. It supports a contemporary chandelier of iron and parchment. The unusual window treatments feature a cornice made of coated silvered linen, studded with nail heads, and sheer draperies for filtering the light. Maple built-in bookcases provide for storage, allowing a burnished walnut table to serve as



ABOVE – Through an arched opening from the living room is the study, also in tones of blue, perfect for reflection.

BELOW – The dining room redefines the word "informal". A round table, with seating for six, hosts Bedemier-type chairs with fanciful round backs and royal blue velvet seats.

OPPOSITE – The silvery blue walls of the living room provide a perfect palette for the ivory wood and glass-fronted antique secretary; the two rattan and cane side chairs, the studded pewter sofa, and the blue print linen armchair.



desk. The high-back tufted armchair is in a paisley print of blues and golds, the colors of the room itself, and a simple visitor's chair is covered in buff linen, enlivened with an embroidered pillow.

The dining room redefines the word "informal". A round table, with seating for six, hosts Bedemier-type chairs with fanciful round backs and royal blue velvet seats. Overhead is a European antique market find: An iron spider web chandelier set with smoky blown glass pedants and candelabra bulbs. A fireplace in the room is bordered by mosaics and topped with a hood fauxed to create an Old World finish and holding pride of place on it is a circular wooden plaque, a stylized ▸



version of a globe. Slate colored silk draperies pool on the floor, allowing light to shine off the walnut wooden floor, *sans* rug to compete with its beauty.

Through a convenient butler's pantry with access to the walk-in cooler, one enters the breakfast room, the tone of which is set by custom draperies, the blue and white fabric of which were sewn together to create giant horizontal stripes. The iron and walnut burnished wood table is surrounded by four side chairs with thick woven sea grass backs and host and hostess chairs of textured blue linen. Two abstract iron candelabras share the table with bisque floral vases and overhead hangs an unusual iron chandelier with ten linen-topped shades. The iron is a simplified version of the ornate custom ironwork stair railing seen behind the dining room. A print of blue coral injects a bit of the sea into the room and folk angels share space with a blue and white porcelain urn on the creatively carved side table, set in front of a star-shaped mirror.

The same draperies frame the view to the canal in the relaxing family room. The other window is topped with a blue Roman decorative valance. A maple entertainment center hosts electronics and collectibles and a butler's tray coffee table is a perfect serving space for a quick snack. A high-backed armchair is covered in a blue and white linen floral print and two dark wood side chairs match the ivory sofa. All three pieces are brightened by blue velvet and cutwork red velvet pillows, picking up on the colors of the room's Turkish rug. An ivory globe lamp with a linen shade sheds warm light on the room. Automatic sliding doors lead to a covered outdoor area complete with fireplace and summer kitchen.





ABOVE – The gourmet kitchen is a study in color. Deep blue walls, whitewashed maple cabinetry, and the traditional yellow and blue urns create the perfect atmosphere for whipping up a *cassoulet*.

OPPOSITE ABOVE – In the breakfast room, folk angels share space with a blue and white porcelain urn on the creatively carved side table, set in front of a star-shaped mirror.

OPPOSITE BELOW – The family room sports custom draperies, the blue and white fabric of which were sewn together to create giant horizontal stripes.

The gourmet kitchen is a study in colors. Deep blue walls, whitewashed maple cabinetry, and yellow and blue urns create the perfect atmosphere for whipping up a *cassoulet*. Trellis-backed wooden chairs, with fabric seats, invite visitors to sit at the granite counter, the arch over which is supported by twin pillars fauxed to look like driftwood. The kitchen island is painted a charcoal blue and proves a nice foil to the Bosch stainless steel appliance package.

The master bedroom features a built-in maple wardrobe ▸





and a matching window seat, topped with a light blue cushion, over which is a tasseled silk shade. The king-size bed itself, as well as the curved headboard, are upholstered in a bisque linen. The lovely blue duvet cover is silk, as are the bolster pillow and shams, and the twin ottomans at the base of the bed reflect these two colors of sea and sand. Twin mirrored chests, straight from the court of the Sun King, serve as nightstands and a French Regency armchair is covered in patterned-cut velvet and linen to reflect the colors of the room. Lamps of polished sea glass and shell prints reflect the ocean theme once more and the wrought iron chandelier creates a touch of palatial elegance overhead.

The shower in the master bath is made of accented Carrera marble with a soap niche and hand-held nickel faucets. Cream and blue silk tied-back drapes frame an arched window and shed light on the built-in linen and collectible shelves that flank the tub. A massive silver frame mirror, with interspersing frosted glass globe lighting, tops a maple



ABOVE – The beautiful shade of coastal green provides a lovely backdrop for the tropical print curtain and bed skirt in this guest room.

OPPOSITE ABOVE – The master bedroom features a built-in maple wardrobe and a matching window seat, topped with a light blue cushion, over which is a tasseled silk shade.

OPPOSITE BELOW – The shower in the master bath is made of accented Carrera marble with a soap niche and hand-held nickel faucets. Cream and blue silk tied-back drapes frame an arched window and shed light on the built-in linen and collectible shelves that flank the tub.

vanity with a long Dolomite Snow granite counter. A navy blue velvet gladiator stool provides perfect seating for the morning toilette.

Rust Roman shelving, resting on the polished Carrera marble floor, provides more towel storage, and a scrolled silver metallic candelabra chandelier hangs from an octagonal tray ceiling fauxed a restful blue.

The beautiful shade of coastal green provides a lovely backdrop for the tropical print curtain and bed skirt in this guest room. The trellis-patterned bronze metal bed is topped with an unbleached cotton, accented with satin stitching and decorative pillows in various ocean shades. A campaign desk affords cubbyholes space for shells and other collectibles. The silver-painted coral sculpture and seahorse prints reinforce the nautical theme of this room, which is part of a guest suite separate from the main house.

This urbane guest room again plays on the palette of sea and sand, using taupes and navy blues. The nubby textured oatmeal carpet starts the theme and the metropolitan armchairs, in a darker shade of natural linen, provide the neutral setting to highlight the blue-on-blue silk pillows, the patterned ottoman, and the botanical prints on the wall. Up the short set of stairs is the regal, yet simple, ebony bed. The twisted posts are hung with sheer for the illusion of privacy. The navy accent wall, behind the bed, acts as backdrop for the diamond Mattelaise duvet cover and the twin grey ▸





ABOVE – A cypress tongue-and-groove ceiling tops the gorgeous outdoor living room, supported by pre-cast columns, comprising a covered portico. A fireplace of Dominican Shell stone hosts a *bas relief* of angel wings and provides warm comfort on cold evenings.

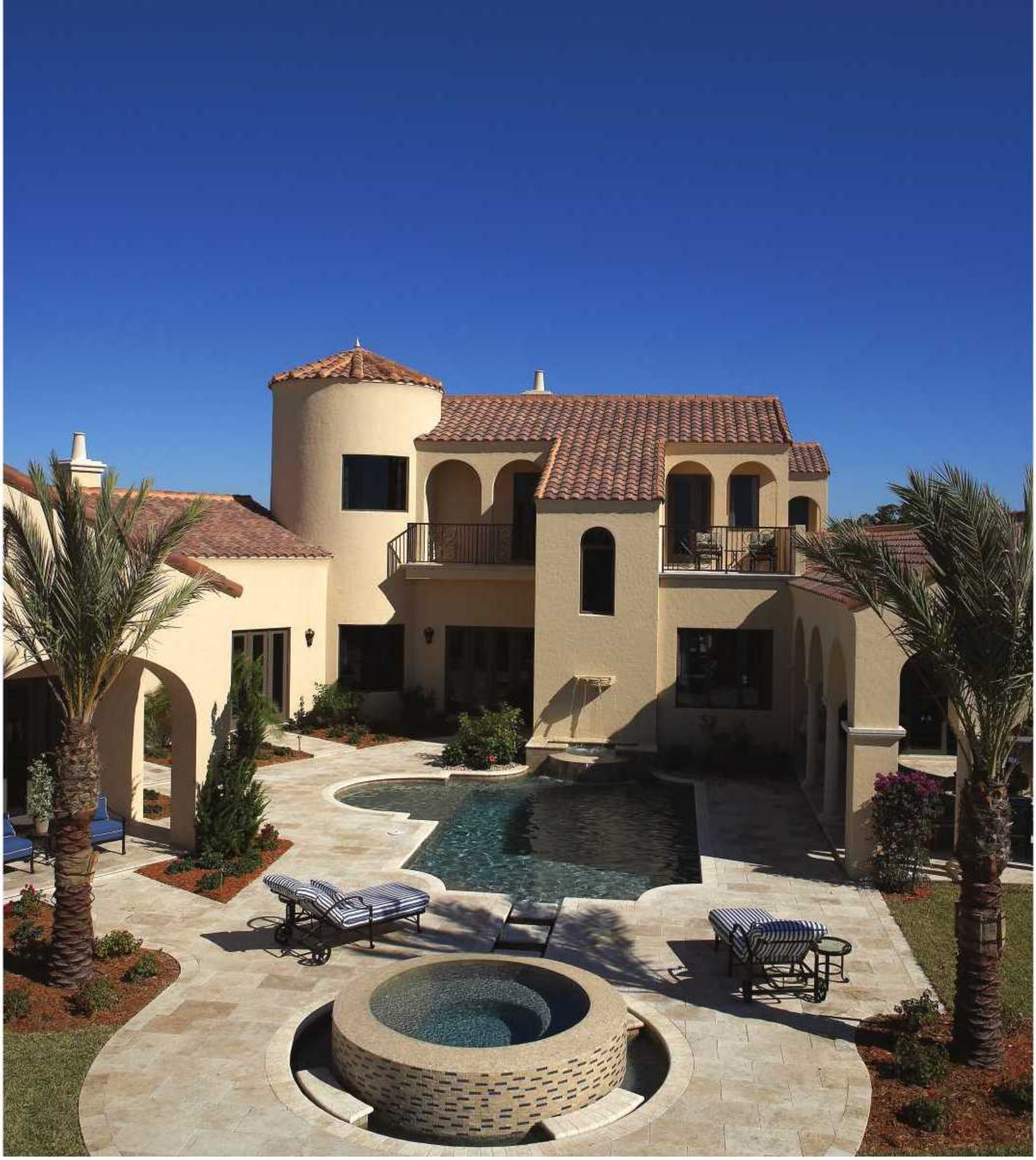
OPPOSITE – This urbane guest room again plays on the palette of sea and sand, using taupes and navy blues.

flannel dental-carved ottomans. Glass-topped nightstand lamps, topped with linen shades, and a chandelier, created out of metallically painted coral, lend light to the scene.

A cypress tongue-and-groove ceiling tops the gorgeous outdoor living room, supported by pre-cast columns, comprising a covered portico. A fireplace of Dominican Shell stone hosts a *bas relief* of angel wings and provides warm comfort on cold evenings. Soft light is provided by candles placed in standing wrought iron lanterns. Durable aluminum, cast to look like iron, forms the furniture grouping and blue sailcloth cushions with white piping provide comfortable seating, both here and on the adjacent bar stools. Nesting tables of wood offer portable serving space and a Travertine-topped iron coffee table lets visitors literally put their feet up. This area includes a complete outdoor kitchen and the handy bar counter is topped with Blue Bahia granite.

Balconies, arches, colonnades, and the cylindrical shape of the rotunda are all visible. Here the geometric pool and separate round spa, which is surrounded by Oxford stone, are joined by a trio of stepping-stones. The surrounding pavers of shellstone and the tropical landscaping make outdoor living a sheer joy.

Like all of our Michelangelo Homes models, The Villa Andalusia comes with our comprehensive three-year warranty that includes everything from replacing light bulbs to ▸



ABOVE – At the rear of the Villa Andalusia, the geometric pool and separate round spa, which is surrounded by Oxford stone, are joined by a trio of stepping stones.

coordinating warranty and maintenance work. Michelangelo Homes is also proud to offer Concierge service plans. The Villa Andalusia comes furnished and is offered at $3.2 million. ♦

Courtesy of Michelangelo Homes
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Written by Kitt Walsh

Photography by Daniel Newcomb
Architectural and Interior Design Photography



A TOUCH OF THE CASTILIAN REGION

THE VILLA SEVILLA BY MICHELANGELO HOMES, located in the Terabella neighborhood of the Renaissance community in Fort Myers, has four-bedrooms, five full-and one-half baths, and at 4,534 square feet of living area, exudes visual styling that is characteristic of the grandiose architecture and seamless harmony found in the small northern provinces of Spain.

A pavered mortorcourt fronts the luxurious home, leading to a three-car garage. The Iberian arched windows and carved Spanish cedar double doors of the dramatic front entry beckons the visitor in.

Through those doors lies a secluded front entry courtyard with a magnificent Travertine stone cross-cut fountain open to the sky. Custom wrought iron doors lead from this ▸





PREVIOUS PAGE – A pavered mortorcourt fronts the luxurious Villa Sevilla by Michelangelo Homes, leading to a three-car garage.

ABOVE – Through those doors lies a covered courtyard with a magnificent Travertine stone cross-cut fountain open to the heavens.

BELOW – A wooden door in the gallery conceals a climate-controlled wine cellar and glazed ceramic and natural fiber wine urns depict the ancient way of storing the vintage.

OPPOSITE – The arched opening of the living room, with its faux marble pillars (created with a Venetian plaster technique), provide a perfect frame for the custom tongue-and-groove cypress ceiling, set in a diamond pattern.

tranquil space into the foyer of the main house.

Classic Travertine stone of random sizes, lines the welcoming entry gallery. A Louis XIII side table with barley twisted legs is topped with a carved ebony mirror, reflecting the light from the trio of wrought iron chandeliers above. Silk russet draperies puddle to the floor and a brightly colored Turkish rug warms the space. At one end of the gallery, a cocoa and tomato-hued bench complements the flame colored dress depicted in the Renaud portrait.

At the other end of the gallery, an Ecquadorean wooden door conceals a climate-controlled wine cellar and glazed ceramic and natural fiber wine urns depict the ancient way of storing the vintage. Both the crown moulding and copper-colored faux panels in the hall and the custom-made wrought iron railing direct the eye upward.

Off the gallery hall lies the inviting living room. The arched



opening, with its faux marble pillars (created with a Venetian plaster technique) provide a perfect frame for the custom tongue-and-groove cypress ceiling, set in a diamond pattern. Automatic sliding doors fold back at the touch of a button to allow access to the pool area and the fireplace adds comfort on cool evenings. Two sloped boxed armless chairs are covered in slate and russet linen and, with the ivory sofa, provide a neutral backdrop for the splashes of color featured in the pillows. The coffee table features a reverse painted glass top with an iron base. Red patterned ceramic lamps reside on Louis XIII end tables and echo the colors of the Turkish rug. A pair of Glicée prints and a gold sun disc adorn the space on either side and above the Jerusalem stone fireplace. Slate, ochre and red silk draperies complete the space.

Just beyond the living room, one enters the dramatic dining room, where the eye is immediately drawn to the ▸



Gustav Kilmt print above a marquetry credenza created from maple and Luan veneers. Ornate crystal and metal chandeliers are topped with bronze fleur de lis' and additional lighting is provided by pillar candles in scarlet metal lanterns on the credenza and by glass candlesticks lining the table. The plank-topped dark walnut Louis XIII table, with seating for six, has carved wooden chairs with caramel leather seats.

Through a butler's pantry, one reaches the charming breakfast room with its farmhouse table, blue-washed wood trestle bench, Neo-classic chairs with seats covered in a brocade chenille pattern, and colorful botanical prints on



"L-shaped" Golden Oak granite counter. Ebony stools sport the same fabric as the adjacent breakfast room. Maple cabinetry and a faux copper and tile stove hood add warmth to the room and spotlight the Travertine and tile backsplash. A Bosch appliance package graces the kitchen and makes light work of chef's chores. Next to the kitchen, accessed via the pantry, is a walk-in cooler sufficient to hold supplies for any size gathering. An iron-and-glass scrolled chandelier hangs from the cypress wood beamed ceiling.

Hand-laid cognac walnut flooring provides a beautiful ▸



ABOVE – The gourmet kitchen provides seating for six at the "L-shaped" Golden Oak granite counter. Maple cabinetry and a faux copper and tile stove hood add warmth to the room and spotlight the Travertine and tile backsplash.

BELOW – Through a butler's pantry, one reaches the charming breakfast room with its farmhouse table, blue-washed wood trestle bench, Neo-classic chairs with seats covered in a brocade chenille pattern, and colorful botanical prints on the walls.

OPPOSITE – In the dramatic dining room, the eye is immediately drawn to the Gustav Kilmt print above a marquetry credenza created from maple and Luan veneers. The plank-topped dark walnut Louis XIII table offers seating for six.

the walls. An iron eight-armed double-tiered chandelier lights the scene below.

The gourmet kitchen provides seating for six at the





foundation for the relaxing family room. An antique Turkish rug, in light colors, offsets the dark plank and iron coffee table and the two rich leather ottomans. A bisque sofa and two side chairs, covered in an oatmeal and russet chenille stripe, prove a soft background for slate/blue trellis, navy silk and aqua embroidered accent pillows. Octagonal side tables and ochre ceramic lamps with linen shades provide interest and the dark wood sideboard is home to hand-blown aqua glass pieces. The abstract prints on the wall pick up the colors of the room. A woven wood decorative valance works in tandem with the multi-turquoise and olive print draperies framing views of the pre-cast twin pillars that grace the lanai just outside.

The study is a masculine retreat of custom dark-stained maple built-in bookcases, an ebony finished table with carved legs, and deep stained crown moulding in two tiers on the fauxed ceiling. A metal and parchment art lamp, armchairs of embossed leather and mohair, and a leather and wood desk chair, trimmed in nail heads, continue the theme. The lighter tones of the Turkish rug are amplified in the



ABOVE – Pristine white crown moulding accents the ceiling fauxed with copper-toned paper on box ceilings above both sections of the master bedroom -- the boudoir and the sitting room.

BELOW – The master bath includes a jetted tub set in a Travertine surround and backed by antique urns, framed shell prints, and a single golden drapery pulled back to let in the light. The shower just behind the tub includes a built-in seat, soap niche, and both a rain shower and wall shower in Travertine with mosaic accents. Silver and golden-hued metallic wallpaper provides a dramatic background for the bathroom's cozy vanity.

OPPOSITE ABOVE – Hand-laid cognac walnut flooring provides a beautiful foundation for the relaxing family room. An antique Turkish rug, in light colors, offsets the dark plank and iron coffee table and the two rich leather ottomans.

OPPOSITE BELOW – The study is a masculine retreat of custom dark-stained maple built-in bookcases, an ebony finished table with carved legs, and deep stained crown moulding in two tiers on the fauxed ceiling. .

coco-and-terra cotta striped draperies and additional light is produced by the abstract wrought iron chandelier above.

Pristine white crown moulding accents the ceiling fauxed with copper-toned paper on box ceilings above both ▸





sections of the master bedroom -- the boudoir and the sitting room. This latter area includes two cuddle chairs covered in plush chenille with nail head trim and a round wooden table accented with metal fretwork. Burnt sienna and gold draperies frame the view from a set of double doors, (leading to the veranda,) and floor-to-ceiling windows with transoms above. The upholstered headboard is covered in textured linen and the mocha silk duvet is set off by a lovely embroidered silk bolster on the bed. Urn lamps of bone and caramel rest atop antique nightstands. A natural cloth covered bench and the buff carpet tie the space together and it is illuminated by a twin set of six-armed iron and crystal chandeliers.

The master bath includes a jetted tub set in a Travertine surround and backed by antique urns, framed shell prints, and a single golden drapery pulled back to let in the light. The shower just behind the tub includes a built-in seat, soap niche, and both a rain shower and wall shower in Travertine with mosaic accents. All fixtures are of oil-rubbed bronze and a Turkish carpet adds a splash of color, as well as a soft surface for newly-bathed feet. Silver and golden-hued metallic wallpaper provides a dramatic background for the bathroom's cozy vanity, complete with dark stained maple cabinetry, Golden Beach granite top, a silver bead mirror, toffee colored leather chair, and alabaster and iron lights above the mirror to cast a lovely light on m'lady's face.

Presiding over this delightful guest room is a carved wooden sun, set with a convex mirror, offering a touch of the exotic. The carved Congo four-poster bed is mango wood with a



ABOVE – A Dominican shell stone fireplace, topped by an abstract metal sculpture, provides light and heat on cool evenings on the outdoor lanai. A complete outdoor kitchen, including a counter in lovely Lapidus granite, invites guests to pull up a stool and stay awhile.

OPPOSITE – The carved Congo four-poster bed is mango wood with a dark walnut finish, and the natural linen with blue stitching duvet cover offers the perfect topping to this majestic bed in the lovely guest room.

dark walnut finish, and the natural linen with blue stitching duvet cover offers the perfect topping to this majestic bed. An embroidered coverlet picks up the tones of the coral, buff and turquoise pillows and echo the coral of the cornice board, from which hang the natural draperies. Glass globe lamps adorn the ebony nightstands.

The home's drama continues outside to the lanai covered by a tongue-and-groove cypress ceiling set with recessed lighting, A Dominican shell stone fireplace, topped by an abstract metal sculpture, provides light and heat on cool evenings and guests are happy to relax in the black aluminum settees covered in navy sailcloth. The small table has a Travertine top and Gold Travertine provides the flooring. A complete outdoor kitchen, including a counter in lovely Lapidus granite, invites guests to pull up a stool and stay awhile.

The rear of the home has a gorgeous geometric pool and spa with Travertine facing and a quartet of urns from which water flows, creating a dramatic and innovative design. Shellstone pavers surround the pool, accessible from the ▸





LEFT – The rear of the home has a gorgeous geometric pool with spa and a quartet of urns from which water flows into the pool.

master bedroom, family room, and dining rooms (The second floor balcony provides a great retreat overlooking the pool area to panoramic golf course views beyond.)

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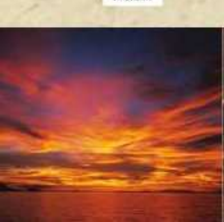
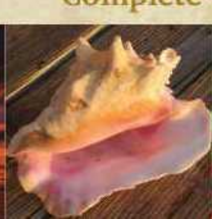
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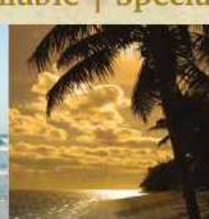
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UNDERSTATED ELEGANCE



"UNDERSTATED ELEGANCE" IS THE PHRASE that comes to mind when one enters the lovely San Ruffino model by McGarvey Homes, designed by the in-house team of Senior Designers, Gloria Vickery and John Whitman, who put their heads (and considerable talents) together to create a soothing, rich and elegant scheme. The Mediterranean-inspired model home's comfortable floor plan, at a substantial 9,105 total square feet, allows for easy livability and entertainment.

A pavered circular driveway leads to the massive mahogany front door. Or guests may drive to the motor court with three separate garages offering parking for four (with extra room to spare for the owner's golf cart.)

Upon entering, visitors will be impressed with the towering foyer featuring a trio of rectangular windows highlighting the impressive row of chandeliers, stone pillars, and creamy marble floor inset with contrasting stones.

Natural light streams through a large bay window overlooking the pool area in the open living room, creating a feeling of relaxed formality. The room has a soaring coffered ceiling, light marble flooring, and a fireplace with an arched surround flanked by bookshelves and built-in alcoves. ▸



Creamy faux finished walls and rich golden window treatments reflects the colors repeated throughout the home--all golds, buffs, ivories and creams as rich as a cafe au lait--with hints of green for a touch of color. The overstuffed sofas are done in a gold tapestry fabric echoed in the scrolled Romanesque carved bench with light sage bolster billows. Patterned gold and green fabric covers the matching arm-



ABOVE – The Mediterranean-inspired San Ruffino's comfortable floor plan, at a substantial 9,105 total square feet, allows for easy livability and entertainment.

BELOW – Upon entering, visitors will be impressed with the towering foyer featuring a trio of rectangular windows highlighting the impressive row of chandeliers, stone pillars, and creamy marble floor inset with contrasting stones.



chairs and ties in the lavish rug of similar hues. A row of small windows form a necklace of light at the top of the octagonal ceiling with its white and gold crown mouldings. A scrolled iron fireplace screen and mantel accessories introduce metal as a design element.

The dining room is the height of quiet elegance with a



ABOVE – Natural light streams through a large bay window overlooking the pool area in the open living room, creating a feeling of relaxed formality. The room has a soaring coffered ceiling, light marble flooring, and a fireplace with an arched surround flanked by bookshelves and built-in alcoves.

BELOW – Elegant French doors open into the library, which features a hardwood floor, arched windows, a masterful mahogany desk with high-backed leather chair, and an overstuffed armchair and ottoman.

OPPOSITE – The dining room is the height of quiet elegance with a bronze chandelier, beveled glass-and-metal table with seating for eight, and wooden circle-backed chairs covered in muted green lattice material.

bronze chandelier, beveled glass-and-metal table with seating for eight, and wooden circle-backed chairs covered in muted green lattice material. Underfoot, the patterned marble forms a natural carpet and the multi-leveled coffered ceiling has several shades of crown moulding to draw the eye upward. The circle-topped windows are finished with gold tasseled sage green silk worthy of the Medicis.



Elegant French doors open into the library, which features a hardwood floor, arched windows, a masterful mahogany desk with high-backed leather chair, and an overstuffed armchair and ottoman. The coffered ceiling and an arch-topped entryway above the door also make dramatic use of wood accents. ▸







ABOVE – In the well-appointed kitchen, warm stained and glazed wood cabinets have been complemented by creamy granite counter tops on the room-for-six octagonal breakfast bar, kitchen island, and on the countertops and backsplash.

CENTER – A dining nook furnished with a circular wood-topped table (resting on a shell carved base) has a wall of windows overlooking the lanai and provides a cheerful corner for breakfast or an informal lunch.

BELOW – The family room offers comfort with overstuffed couches, a set of high-backed chairs in striped shades of gold and green, a low wooden coffee table for putting one's feet up, and metallic lamps and table ornaments.

OPPOSITE – The master bedroom is opulent with light gold walls and a soft ivory carpet creating an ambience at once warm and rich. The multi-leveled coffered ceiling is fauxed in shades of ivory and gold with crown moulding, reflecting the color scheme.

In the well-appointed kitchen, warm stained and glazed wood cabinets have been complemented by creamy granite counter tops on the room-for-six octagonal breakfast bar, kitchen island (with its own prep sink), and on the countertops and backsplash. The ornate stove hood, flanked by tall



arch-topped windows, features a faux finished inset. The walls add warmth by use of a subtly patterned gold paper. The double octagonal coffered ceiling with lighter crown moulding towers above the Sub Zero and Wolfe appliances, including a double oven, convention microwave, eight burner chef's gas stove, and a double door refrigerator with wooden panels to match the cabinetry. Ample storage is provided in both the nearby butler's pantry and bar with glass-fronted cabinets and seating for three with sage tone-on-tone curved stools.

A dining nook furnished with a circular wood-topped table (resting on a shell carved base) has a wall of windows overlooking the lanai and provides a cheerful corner for breakfast or an informal lunch.

The adjacent family room offers comfort with overstuffed couches, a set of high-backed chairs in striped shades of gold and green, a low wooden coffee table for putting one's feet up, and metallic lamps and table ornaments. The coffered ceiling includes patterned hardwood and a striking glass wall offers views out to both the pool area and golf course. A wooden credenza has storage for more treasures and a collection of glass plates by a local artist add a touch of interest to the soft beige walls. A banded rug of seagrass puts a finishing touch to the room.

The master bedroom is opulent with light gold walls and a soft ivory carpet creating an ambience at once warm and rich. The multi-leveled coffered ceiling is fauxed in shades of ivory and gold with crown moulding reflecting the color scheme. A second coffered ceiling tops the room's alcove in which rests an inviting chaise lounge and reading lamp. An arch-topped glass window rests over the French doors leading out the to the pool area. The wood-and-iron canopy bed makes a dramatic statement, covered with a shimmering light green silk duvet and a dust ruffle that is pure glamour, made of shining golden silk. At the windows, diaphanous ivory draperies are topped with fabulous flowing window treatments consisting of side panels and swags of heavy green silk. The entertainment center and dressers (serving as ▸





ABOVE – The stunning free-form pool, surrounded by pavers and inset with palm trees and seasonal flowers, includes a raised spa and lighted water features for nighttime enjoyment.

CENTER – Adjacent to the master bath is an octagonal suite, offering a perfect place for a private massage or use as a personal exercise studio.

BELOW – The covered lanai includes an outdoor kitchen with built-in cabinetry and grill for poolside refreshment.

OPPOSITE – A separate area serves as an outdoor living room with overstuffed scrolled iron furniture in the home's signature shades of green and gold set before the gas fireplace.



end tables) are made of restful blonde oak. Ivory urn lamps recollect the home's Old World feel and softly light this welcoming room, a comfortable sanctuary to retire to at the end of a busy day.

The master bath is the picture of luxury. In the center of the room, set with harlequin marble floors, is a lavish oval tub surrounded by cocoa marble and flanked by two corbel-topped pillars and a faux marble arch leading to the giant step-down shower behind. Three arched windows high



in the wall shed light on the multi-jet nickel and gold-accented Kohler fixtures. His and Hers vanities flank the tub on either side of the room with light wood cabinetry accented by darker wood borders and brown and gold marble countertops. Wood framed mirrors reach to the ceiling and are topped by a golden-toned faux arches leading to the vaulted ceiling. Adjacent to the master bath is an octagonal suite, offering a perfect place for a private massage or use as a personal exercise studio.

The home also offers three other spacious bedrooms with separate guest baths (one serves as the pool bath) and there is an additional half bath behind the kitchen for convenience. Not to leave out any members of the family, a separate doggie shower is located in the laundry room.

Zero corner pocketing sliding glass doors at the back of the home open to an indoor-outdoor living space that is the perfect spot for entertaining. The covered lanai includes an outdoor kitchen with built-in cabinetry and grill for poolside refreshment, as well as a granite counter with comfortable all-weather stools. A separate area serves as an outdoor living room with overstuffed scrolled iron furniture in the home's signature shades of green and gold set before the gas fireplace. The stunning free-form pool, surrounded by pavers and inset with palm trees and seasonal flowers, includes a raised spa and lighted water features for nighttime enjoyment.

The San Ruffino at Quail West offers all that one could wish for in their home--understated elegance, gorgeous architectural detail, rich furnishings, room to entertain, and the fine quality that has come to be expected in a McGarvey Custom Home. ♦

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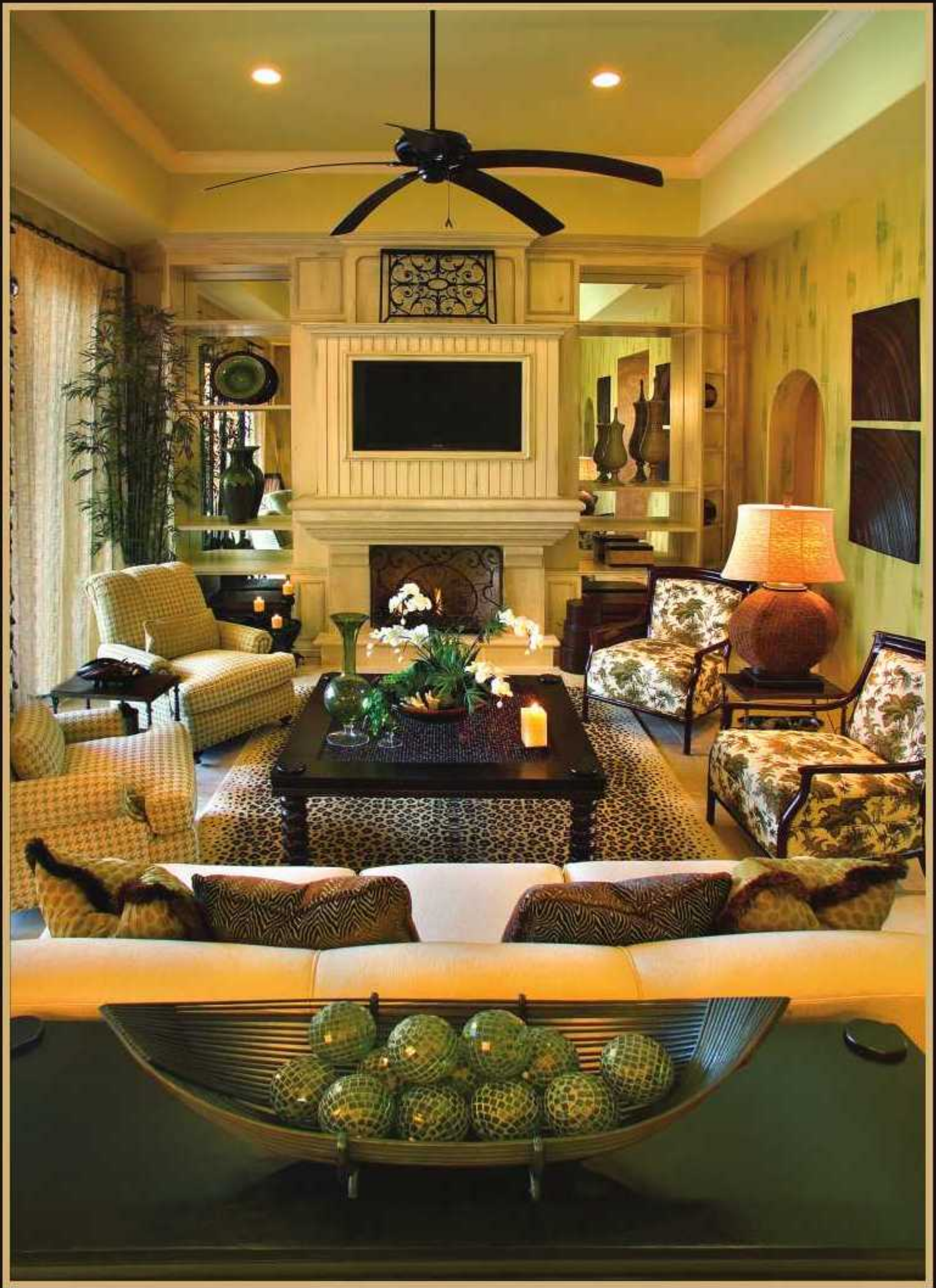
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Courtesy of Jinx McDonald Interior Design

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A WORLD OF BEAUTY

ACCORDING TO HISTORIAN MIRIAM BEARD, "Travel is more than the seeing of sights; it is a change that goes on, deep and permanent, in the ideas of living." The owners of the private residence profiled in this home tour would concur. They have traveled the world and their residence is a reflection of their journeys and interesting life.

This 5,000 square foot luxury high-rise condominium at The Colony Golf & Bay Club in Bonita Springs includes three -bedrooms, four-and-a-half baths and its location on the 17th floor offers a view over Estero Bay and out to the Gulf of Mexico that is to die for. The interior views are quite impressive as well, designed by highly acclaimed licensed Interior Designer Jinx McDonald of Jinx McDonald Designs in Naples. She and the owners collaborated extensively on the project. The homeowners enjoyed adding new acquisitions to some of their most treasured possessions and Jinx provided creative design concepts and discoveries to further enhance the beauty of this home.

"My clients have excellent taste and are very particular about what items they wanted in their home," says Jinx. "The entire project took three years to complete."

The private elevator opens into a foyer colored a soft buttery yellow and introduces an Asian motif, one of several interesting motifs in the residence. An ebony table on the left is topped with an intricately carved matching mirror. The Theodore & Alexander chair has silk cushions and a floral needlepoint pillow. Additional trim was added to the casing

around the double doors as well as to the tray ceiling and soffit. The front doors, that open into the main foyer, are held back by a pair of bronze Foo Dogs, traditional Japanese guardians of the home. In the center of the octagonal shaped main foyer is a table featuring metal fretwork and an antiqued mirror top, adorned with a display of white orchids. A custom-made rug lies underneath, with a leaf pattern in gold on a background of rich black. The octagonal tray ceiling is faux finished in a soft buttery color and fine wallpaper from Thibaut accents the octagonal shape of this area. An elegant mirrored screen reflects the clients' refined taste. "Actually each piece was deliberately chosen by these artistic and aesthetic perfectionists," says Jinx. "All of the pieces are meaningful to them and the entire project was a labor of love."



ABOVE – The private elevator opens into a foyer colored a soft buttery yellow and introduces an Asian motif, one of several interesting motifs in the residence.

Beautiful natural light that takes on a particularly warm glow at sunset illuminates the elegant and peaceful living room. Jinx considers this room especially inviting because nothing is overdone, yet the owners did not stint on little details and have bestowed an air of quiet refinement to the space. Matching sofas covered in ivory chenille with wool throws provide a neutral background for the accent pillows in an eclectic mix of silk taffeta and other textures. A pair of French Louis XV Bergeres chairs are upholstered in a soft blue and ivory floral print and the Swaim coffee table is made of ebony accented with gold. The butler's table has bronze gallery fretwork and the room's twin chandeliers are alabaster with crystal. The wood valance has moulding added to both top and bottom and full-length hand-interlined draperies of heavy silk conceal remote controlled shades. The table lamp with its intricate ivory leaf design, is one of the owners' favorite original pieces. ▸





A finely woven wool carpet doesn't compete for attention, but rather allows the other furnishings to shine

The library is the gentleman's domain and contains work by well-known cabinetmaker, the late Barry Reites. His son, Adam, assumed the mantle and completed the work in this residence. Here the attractive millwork and maple built-in bookcase are accented by a rich grass cloth in the recessed area. Swing lamps for reading and woven bamboo blinds that allow shaded sunlight provide the room's light sources. A metal studded leather chair adds a definite masculine touch to the room. The printed chenille sofa from Jessica Sidney is a unique piece and is accented by fringed pillows in sumptuous washed blue velvet. The rug is an antique Oriental owned by the clients and resting on it is a table fashioned after the Old World traveling trunk, perfect for this particular home. An Asian elephant, whose raised trunk symbolizes good luck, and a Tang Horse sculpture are among the prized souvenirs.

The breakfast room is a study in Country French. The



ABOVE – The library is the gentleman's domain and contains work by well-known cabinetmaker, the late Barry Reites.

OPPOSITE PAGE – Beautiful natural light that takes on a particularly warm glow at sunset illuminates the elegant and peaceful living room.

chairs have a traditional wheat sheaf design on the back and custom upholstered cushions of Stroheim fabric on the rush seats. Both the table and chairs were found at Jessica Sidney on a buying trip to the East Coast. The draperies continue the Country French theme and consist of a small print cornice and side panels of ivory shantung with blue and gold fringe from Scalamandre. The ornate ivory and blue iron chandelier is topped with silk shades and the wood-carved French Regency clock is one of the clients' favorite finds. A Maurice Prendergast print of a 19th Century beach picnic on the Riviera and Golden Saturnia flooring complete the cheerful ambiance of this room.

The sunny kitchen showcases more work by cabinetmaker Adam Reites. Very fine grass cloth is installed between the crown moulding and bead trim at the bottom of the soffit. The decorative tiles of the kitchen backsplash, white with green fleur-de-lis insets, are from Ceramic Matrix. A carved wood stool with rush seat offers convenient seating at the refurbished kitchen island. Siematic maple cabinetry overlooks Golden Beach granite counters and appliances such as the SubZero refrigerator, double oven with convection unit, and double stainless sinks provide ample working space for the gourmet chef. The lady of the house likes to grow her own herbs and fresh lavender next to the ceramic rooster, plus a collection of hand-painted botanical plates, reflect her love of gardening. A bronze and alabaster trio of lights over the kitchen island offer a decorative ▸







addition to the integral lighting. The ceiling is accented with bamboo trellis wallpaper and rich Saturnia marble provides the perfect luxury but easy-care flooring in this area.

This very pretty room features a Henredon table of burnished fruitwood with seating for eight. The host and hostess chairs are entirely upholstered in a delicate shrimp color silk, matching the seats of the Queen Anne side chairs. This fabric features the legendary French Napoleonic bee motif and the trellis-like pattern approximates a beehive's geometry. The silk wallpaper above the chair rail has wide ivory tone-on-tone stripes and is repeated in the soffit above. A fabulous mirror with antique metal frame reflects the light of the chandelier with its crystal pendants and silk ivory shades.

The serene master suite is finished in soft creams and rich ivories set off by a shock of color in the rose patterned silk pillows. Asian blue and white porcelain depicted in the Cowtan & Tout fabric appears in the throw pillows as well as the valance above the curtains. The draperies themselves are of very soft fine linen trimmed with thick cotton fringe. The remote controlled blinds behind the draperies are made of a delicately woven cream straw and can give the room total privacy. The headboard wall, both above and below the chair rail, is covered with an ivory grass cloth. As for the rest of the room's furnishings, many are treasures from the couple's





ABOVE – The serene master suite is finished in soft creams and rich ivories set off by a shock of color in the rose patterned silk pillows.

BELOW – The lady of the house is elegance personified and her dressing table in the master bathroom reflects this.

OPPOSITE ABOVE – The sunny kitchen showcases more work by cabinetmaker Adam Reites. Very fine grass cloth is installed between the crown moulding and bead trim at the bottom of the soffit.

OPPOSITE CENTER – The breakfast room is a study in Country French. The chairs have a traditional wheat sheaf design on the back and custom upholstered cushions of Stroheim fabric on the rush seats.

OPPOSITE BELOW – This very pretty room features a Henredon table of burnished fruitwood with seating for eight. The host and hostess chairs are entirely upholstered in a delicate shrimp color silk, matching the seats of the Queen Anne side chairs.

travels abroad and give the room an eclectic air. The master bed is ebony with gold accents and the graceful dragon shapes at the bottom corners are reminiscent of the homes of Japanese Indigo merchants of the 1600's. The demilune nightstands are the clients' own, as are the matching gold floral lamps. An overstuffed loveseat in the bay window overlooks hidden inlets of Estero Bay where one might find a moored sailboat or egrets at play.

The lady of the house is elegance personified and her dressing table in the master bathroom reflects this. Emperador Light marble tops the beautiful maple cabinetry upon which rests a vanity set of silver. Fine quality spa terry fabric covers the very feminine Hollywood chair and a ▸



delicate lamp with hourglass-shaped silk shade gives a warm glow, perfect for makeup. Damask Imperial wallpaper gives this private alcove a truly luxurious feel.

The son's bedroom features a handsome mahogany burled sleigh bed and hemp-colored linen bedspread with burnt sienna accents. Hand embroidered pillows sport a Nautilus shell design and the camel leather armchair hosts a needlepoint pillow. Coral lamps continue the sea theme. The armoire is also burled mahogany and houses the requisite modern electronics. The custom designed cornice is comprised of ivory leather studded with nail heads and a striking leopard skin ottoman adds another element of the exotic.

Rattan outdoor furniture with floral cushions provides front row seating for six to enjoy the condo's gorgeous view. The screens on this lanai are custom made and are totally retractable via remote control, as the homeowners wanted nothing between them and the great outdoors.

ABOVE – The son's bedroom features a handsome mahogany burled sleigh bed and hemp-colored linen bedspread with burnt sienna accents.

OPPOSITE ABOVE – A Martha Stewart bamboo bed, with pillows of soft oriental blues and roses, set an Asian theme in this guest bedroom.

OPPOSITE BELOW – Jinx's team refinished the powder room cabinet to give it a mellow burnished - almost golden - appearance.

A Martha Stewart bamboo bed, with pillows of soft oriental blues and roses, set an Asian theme in this guest bedroom. The hand-painted chest with ivory and gold accents depicts a traditional Japanese scene and the unusual bamboo lampshade has natural straw accents. The caned settee is covered in an ivory heavyweight linen, the drapes are of colorful cotton chintz and wool carpet provides a natural stage for the room's drama. The handsome ebony desk is proof once again, that eclectic pieces gathered





over time from the far corners of the earth can all work nicely together.

Jinx's team refinished the powder room cabinet to give it a mellow burnished - almost golden - appearance. The lovely cream tone vanity top, brushed nickel fixtures and black accessories complement the dramatic Brunschwig & Fils wallpaper featuring kite flyers and jugglers. The lighting fixture is a sconce of blackened bronze with gold accents, no doubt discovered in an antique shop on one of many memorable journeys. ♦

Courtesy of Jinx McDonald Designs, Inc.
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www.jinxmcdonald.com
Written by Kitt Walsh
Photography by Giovanni Photography

The Art and Science of Design

There is an art and a science to Interior Design. The science entails research, space design, creating an overall plan and sharp organization skills. The art of design is the culmination of years of experience in interpreting needs, working with color and texture and understanding the individual psyches of the client.



Today more than ever, we look to our homes to be safe refuges from the everyday stresses that surround us. Today's style is gravitating to a design with simple, clean lines that combine the feel of 'hearth and home' with a contemporary sensibility - the geometry of modernism. Contemporary design,and its associated 'starkness', is being softened with the use of natural, organic colors and textures that soothe the senses.

Architects are incorporating geometric influences into the "bones" of the house; from simple, straight lines repeated in doors and windows to circles enveloped by triangles. These dramatic statements become the uncomplicated background onto which the interior design layers comfortable, yet elegant furnishings, textiles and accessories to create a welcoming style called "home".

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DESIGNER GIGI KEITT SHARES TIPS TO ENSURE YOUR PERFECT SPACE



Gigi Keitt is more than just a talented and creative designer. She is a selection coordinator and spatial planner with 25 years of experience working with artisans, builders, architects and a host of satisfied clients. Her biggest asset is that she listens closely and fulfills her clients' goals and aspirations.

Whether designing a gourmet kitchen, planning a lavish master bath, or creating an efficient workplace, Gigi guides her clients in how best to fulfill their vision of a perfect space, while not imposing her own.

"I bring to my clients' projects my knowledge of trends, new products, space design, and years of experience having worked on teams with some of the industries' finest craftsmen," she says.

Approaching each project holistically, Gigi considers how a client cooks, or entertains, or works--how they live their lives--into her plans and designs. "I ask a lot of questions and am a very good listener. I then offer unbiased and functional space planning to fit their needs and guide them through the process. Clients are well informed and have good instincts. They just need some confidence and a little guidance."

Another passion of Gigi's is to work with a remodeling project. "It's a great challenge to work within parameters that are already present. That's where my experience in architectural planning and cabinetry comes in handy," she says.

Gigi prides herself on maximizing the effectiveness of a space, while always incorporating the most important of elements - the taste and interests of her clients.

Here she offers some tips to help guide *you* through your next design project:

- Whether planning new construction or a remodel, bring in someone who has sense of the completed project, who understands spatial needs, as well as how decorating elements can help serve the finished project. Bring them in early! Hiring an experienced designer in the early stages of space planning is key to making correct construction-related selections.
- Be sure the design professional you choose consults not only with you as the homeowner, but with the architect and builder on all aspects of the project. Be sure their focus is on listening to the objective and values with an eye on the aesthetics.
- Ask to see the layout and drawing of the space's design and get a clear explanation of how it achieves the goals you've set together. Having a clear plan will also help you get accurate pricing bids for the project.
- Find a style that works for you. Whether it be transitional, traditional, sophisticated casual or sophisticated elegance, any style trend can be made to conform to your personal taste.
- Keep a file of colors, fabrics, and pieces of furniture you like, which you have collected from books and magazines. A good designer will be able to see a consistent pattern in your selections.





• If you plan on using a mixture of existing furnishings, have pictures and dimensions available. These will help your design professional blend those pieces with the new space, without sacrificing your sense of individuality.

• Above all, look for a designer that will listen to what your needs are and goes that extra mile to achieve them.

To discuss your project, contact Gigi.



▲ Before



After ▸

Interior Concepts by Gigi, Inc.

239 596-1788

239 273-7557

icbgigi@gmail.com


Photo Courtesy of Giovani Photography

Trade Sources



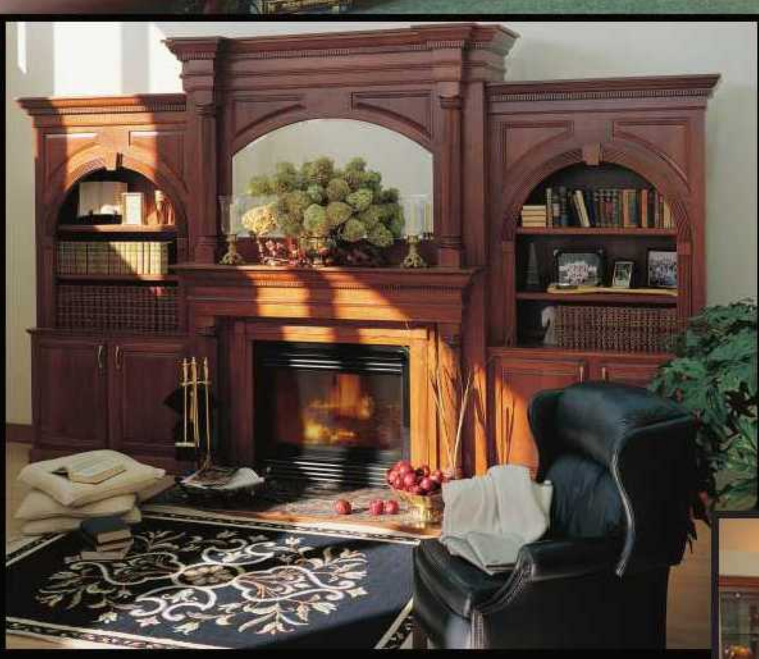
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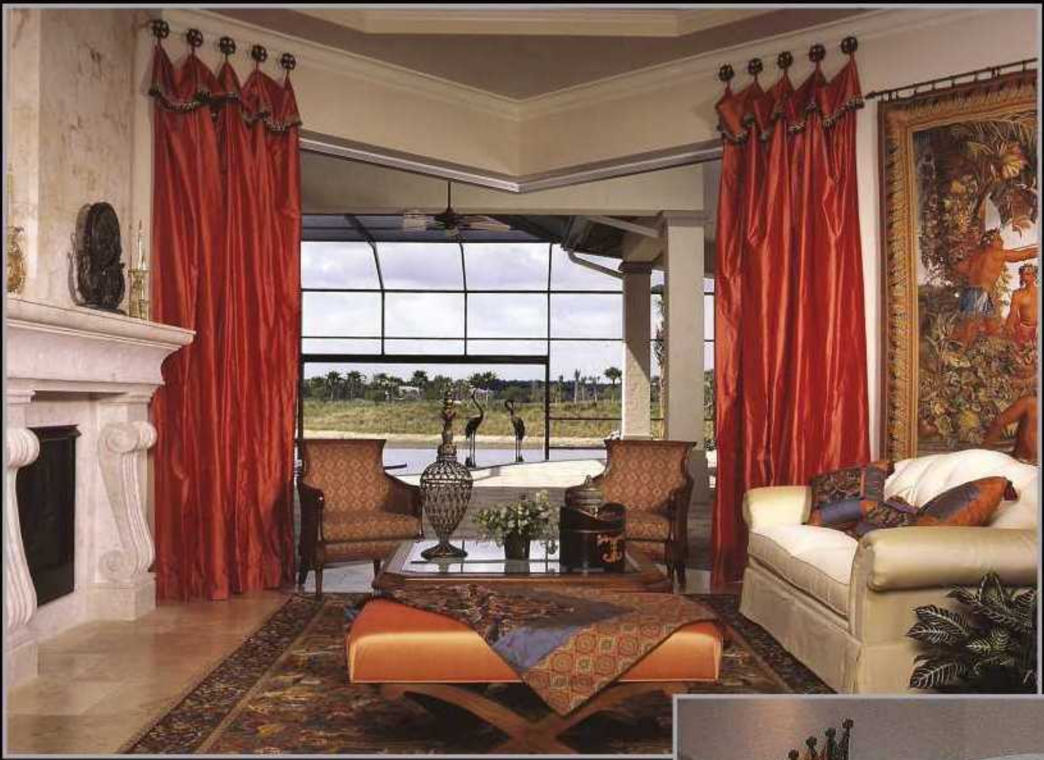


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Artist Dick Zimmerman will travel to your home environment or to the location of your choice to design the initial portrait sitting. The sitting will require no longer than five hours. The majority of the time will be spent on design and supervision of the composition, the coordination of the hair and makeup, and the wardrobe selection.

The adult subjects will not need to sit longer than one hour, and the children not longer than ten minutes, while Dick Zimmerman takes various photographs that will be used for reference material, and the foundation for his oil painting.

Dick Zimmerman has been referred to by the media as an artistic genius. Known as "The Image Maker," he is considered to be the most accomplished portrait artist of the 20th century. Zimmerman is sought after by the world's most celebrated entertainers, dignitaries, politicians and influential personalities.

Z PORTRAITURES
DICK ZIMMMERMAN



Dick Zimmerman's unique technology in portraiture captures and enhances the essence of the subject's beingness. He refers to it as "capturing the subtleties of the soul." His portraits communicate life and energy captured in a preservation of a moment in time.

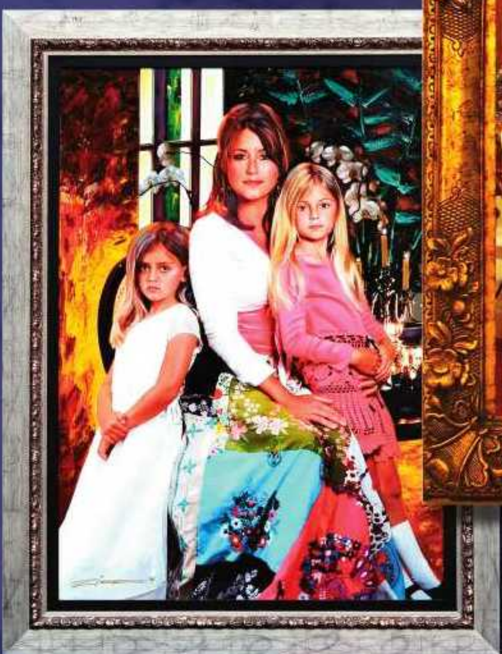
Zimmerman has created hundreds of portrait commissions, which range from actors Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman, Michael Jackson, Priscilla and Lisa Presley, and to icons such as Aaron Spelling, Govenor Arnold Schwarzeneggar, and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Zimmerman has also had the rare honor of having the greatest artist of our time, Salvidor Dali, and his wife Gala, sit for a Zimmerman Portraiture. He has exhibited his work all over the world and has recently been invited to exhibit his work in an exclusive exhibition at Donald Trump's Mar-a-Lago estate in Palm Beach.

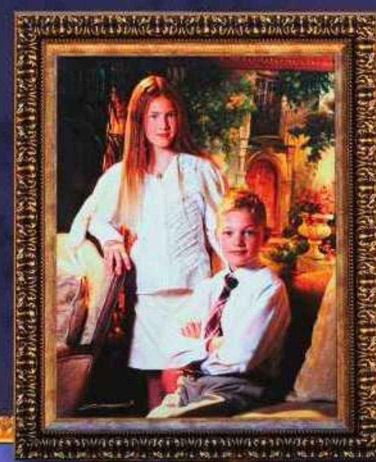
Dick Zimmerman's Mixed Media portraitures were developed through many years of meticulously combining his oil painting techniques with his famed photographic expertise, to originate and create a new direction in Realistic Fine Art Portraiture.

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These exclusive mixed-media portraits on canvas combine his renowned modern photographic techniques with his “old masters” oil painting expertise that create a Priceless Masterpiece of you, your children or your family that will be loved by all, valued by you above other belongings, and cherished for generations to come.



Dick Zimmerman, a native of New York, studied painting at the School of Visual Arts, the Parsons School of Design, and acquired his Bachelor of Arts Degree at New York University with post-graduate studies at the Brooklyn Museum, with contemporary fine arts masters, Issac & Moses Soyer.

He then he spent years developing his craft throughout Europe with studios in London & Milan. Then returning to Los Angeles and Tampa, where for the last 37 he years has been creating his portraitures nationally and internationally, and has been featured on shows such as Lifestyle of the Rich and Famous, CNN, NBC's the Today Show, Entertainment Tonight, Access Hollywood ABC, Eye on LA CBS, PM Magazine Fox and Daytime NBC.

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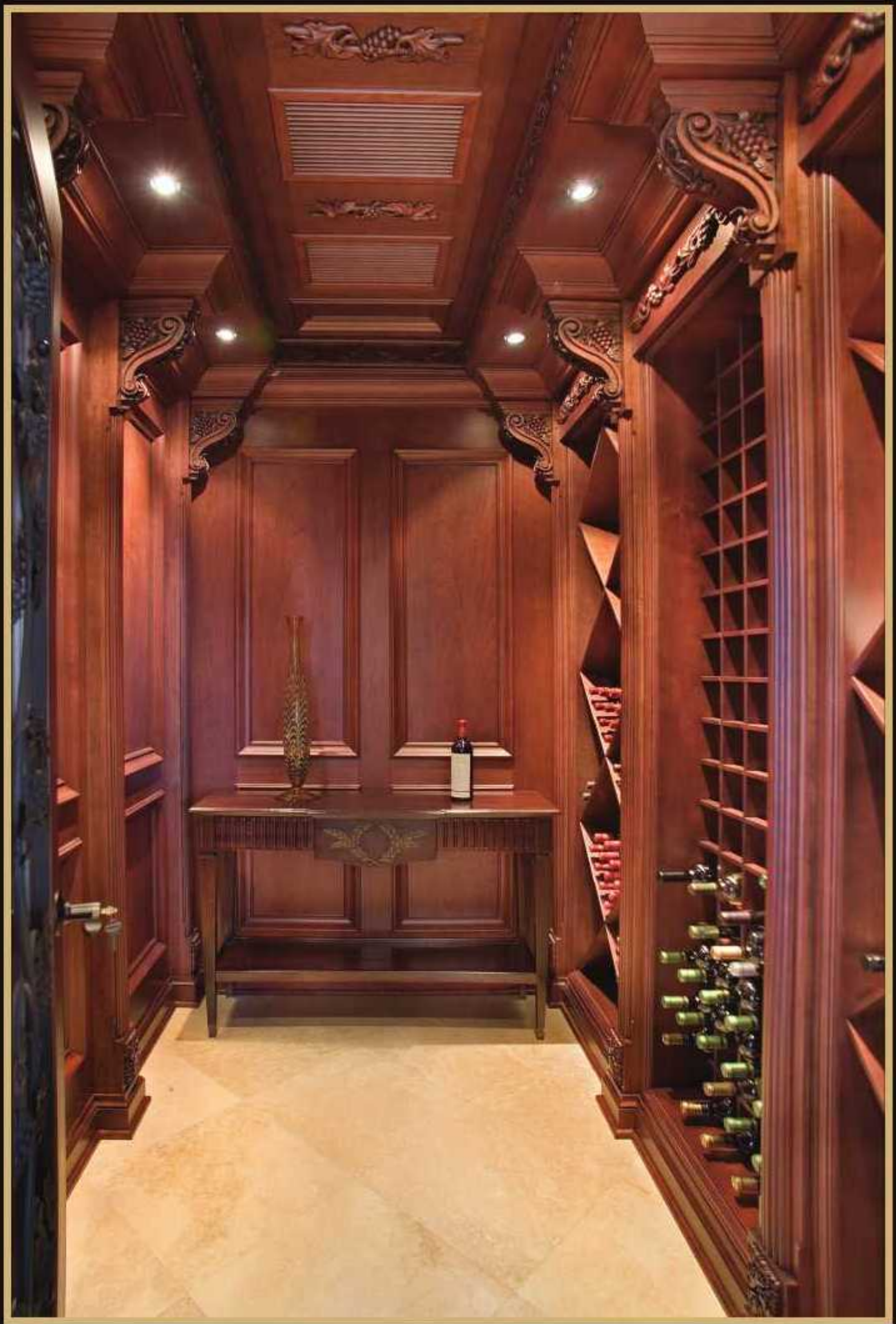
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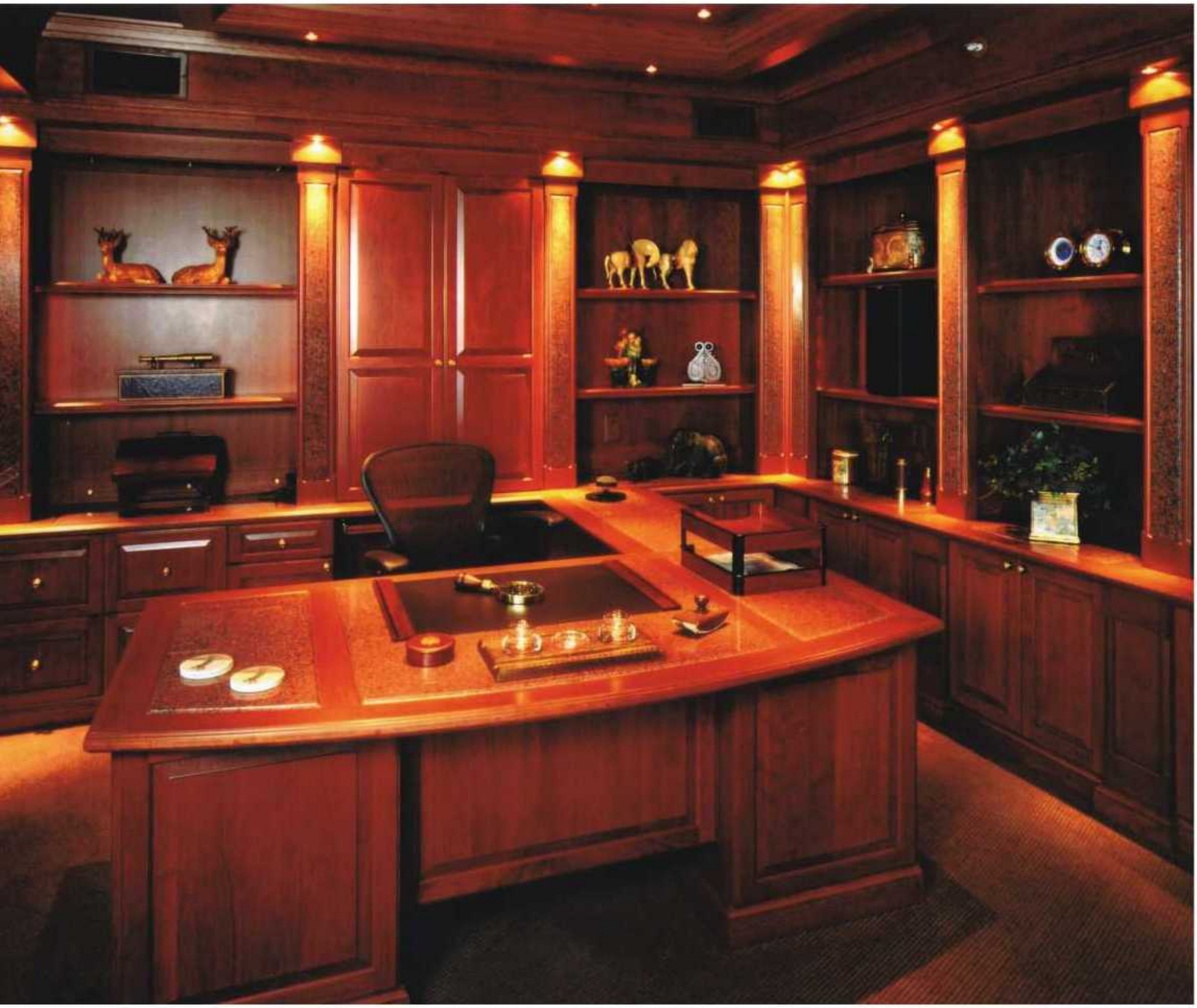
Photo Courtesy of Giovanni Photography

CABINETRY



Courtesy of Naples Custom Cabinets & Millwork

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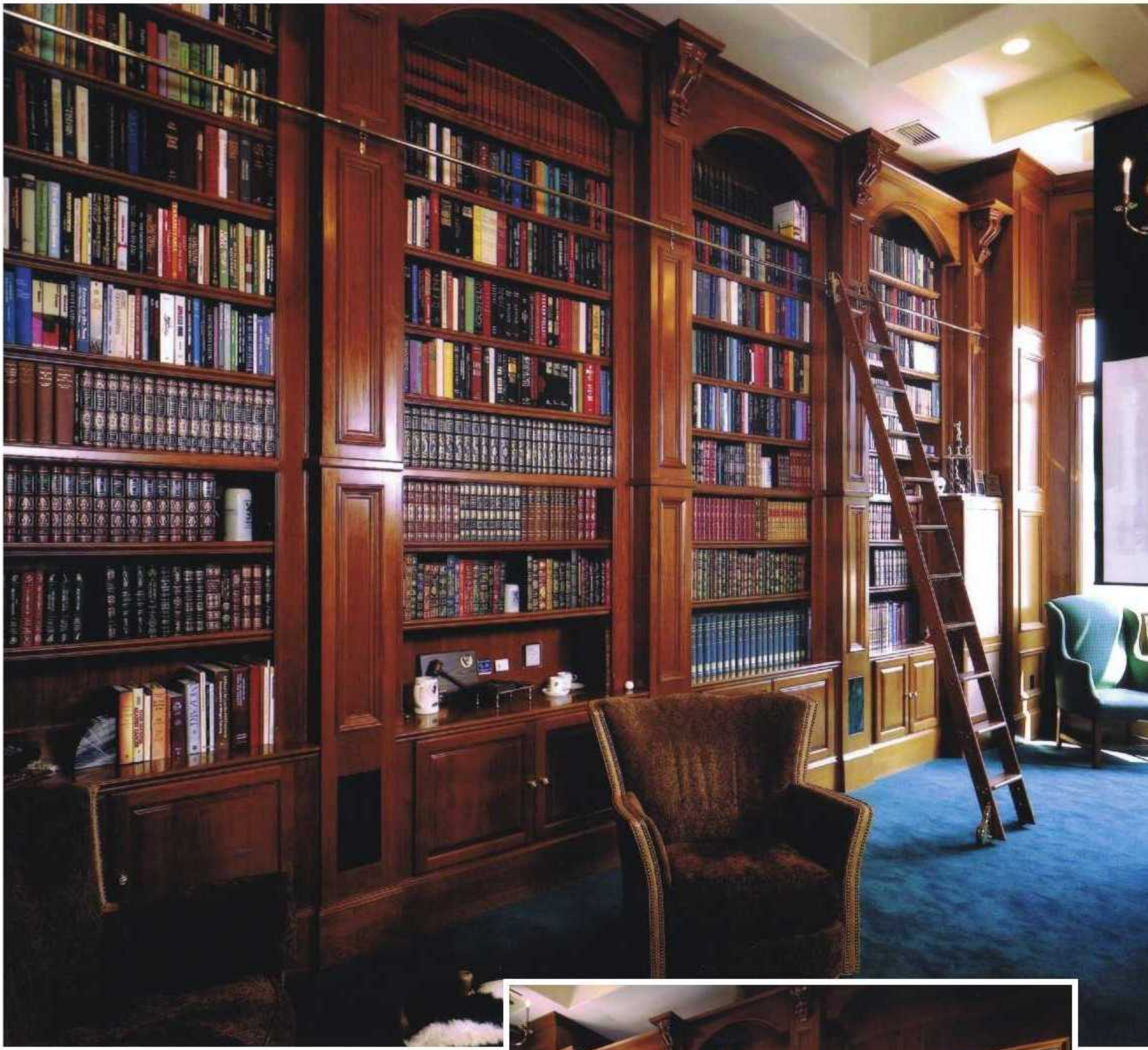


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owner's taste, or adds more value to a home's ultimate resell price than the Kitchen and Master Bath," says owner Steve Weichelt. "Remodeling has become an increasingly popular option," Weichelt continues. "These new divisions help us focus even more intently on meeting our customers specific needs--and that's why we are in business...to make our customers' dreams a reality." ♦



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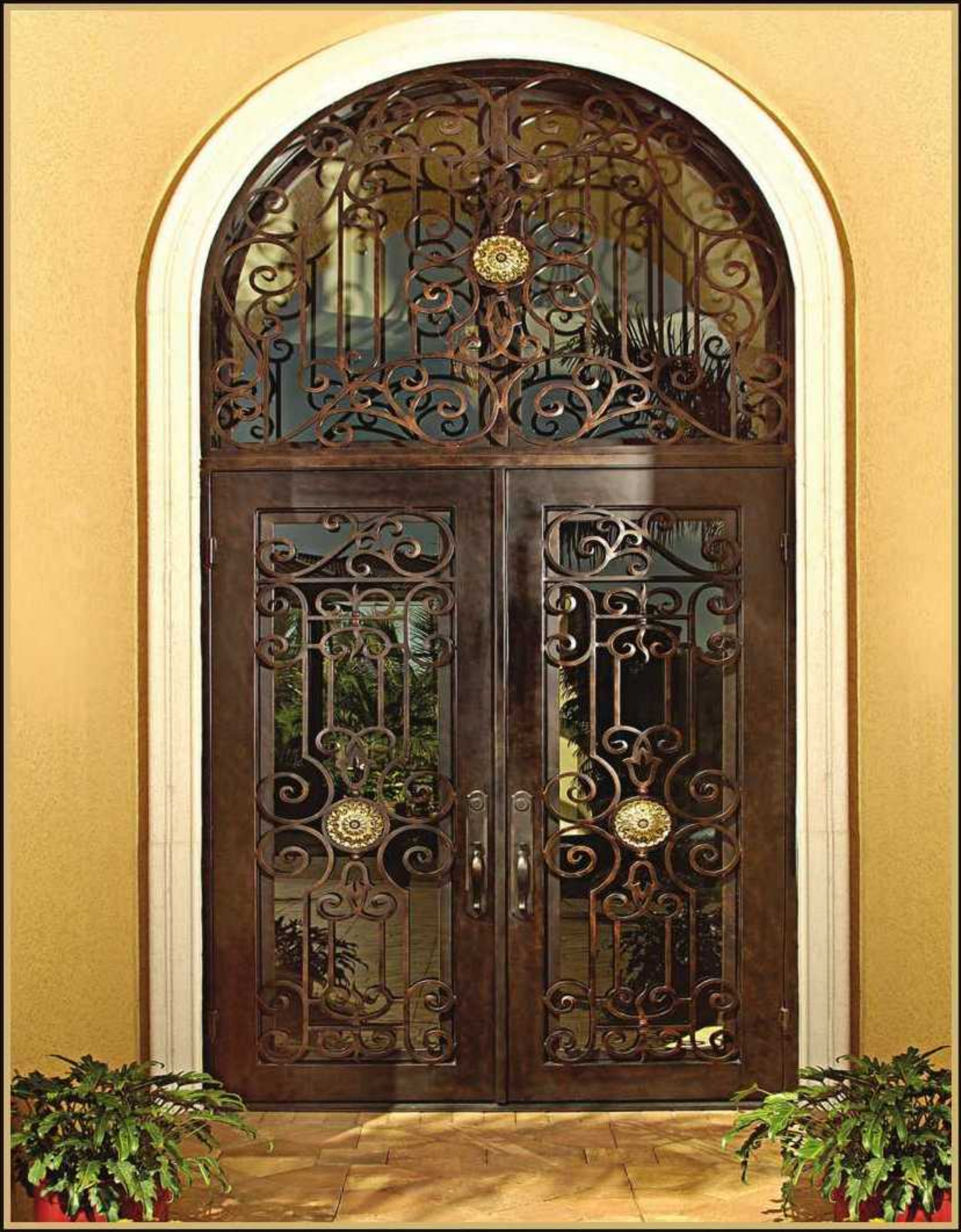
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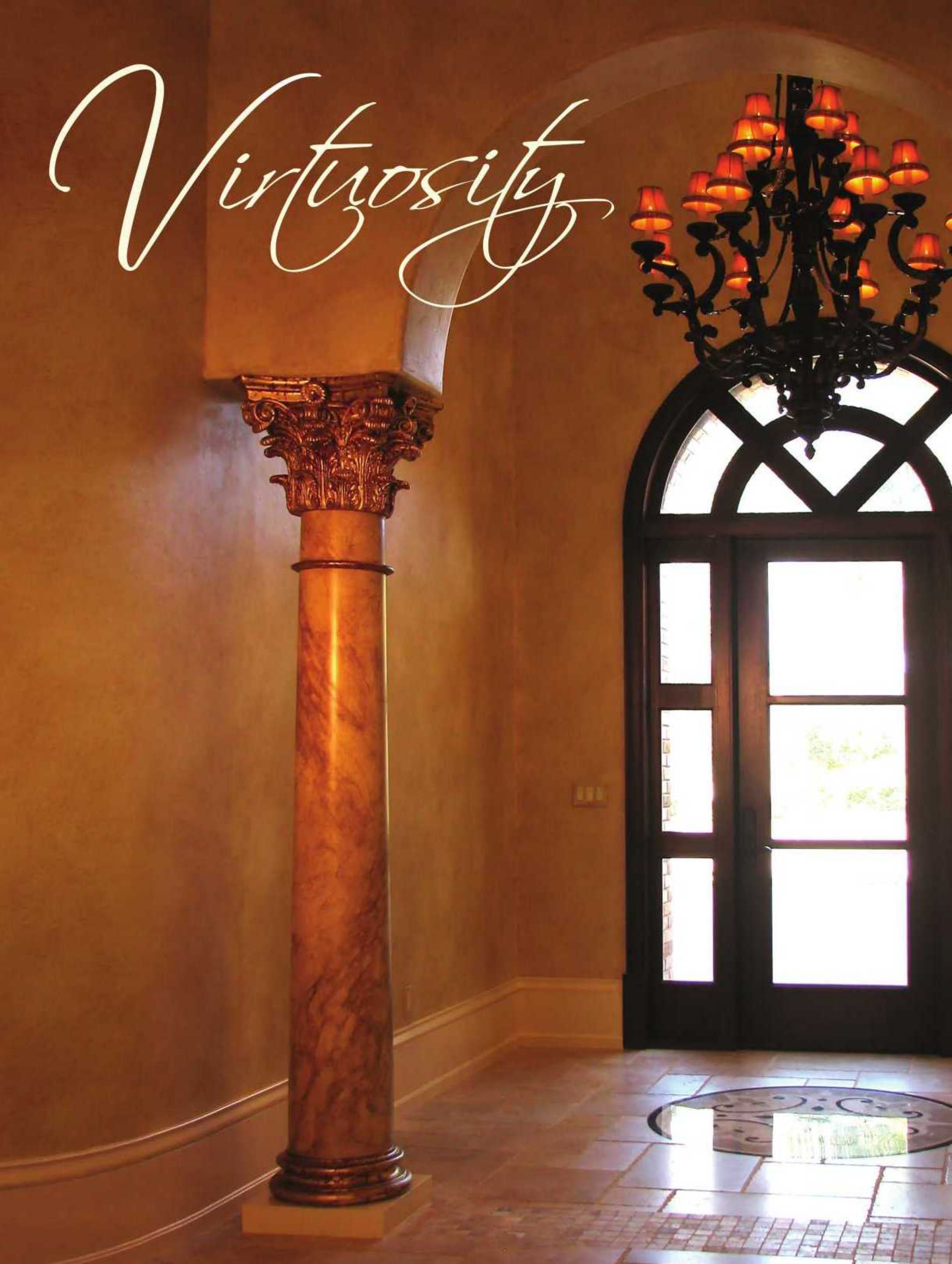

Virtuosity





Photo Courtesy of Tim Davis, Muralist



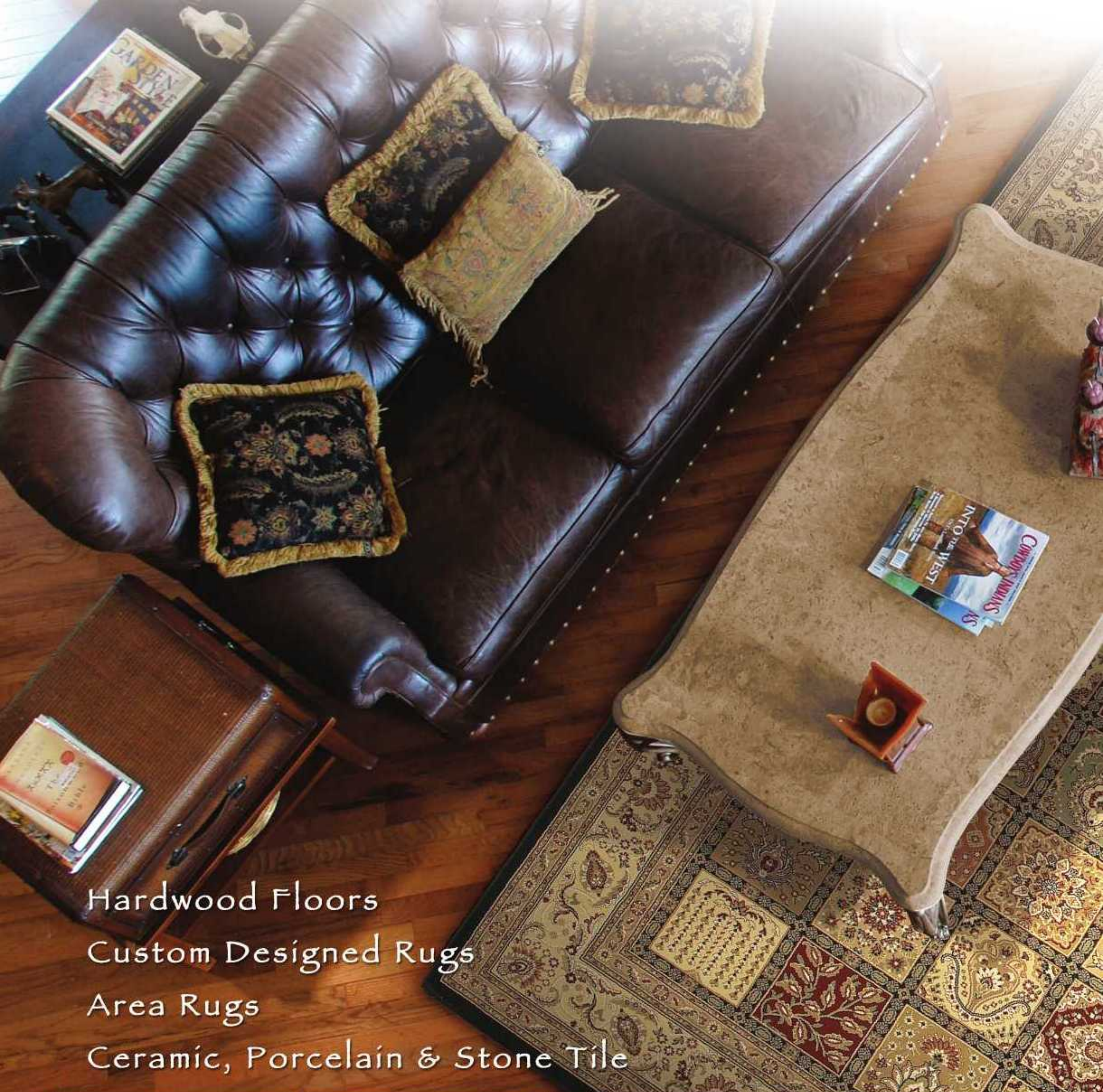
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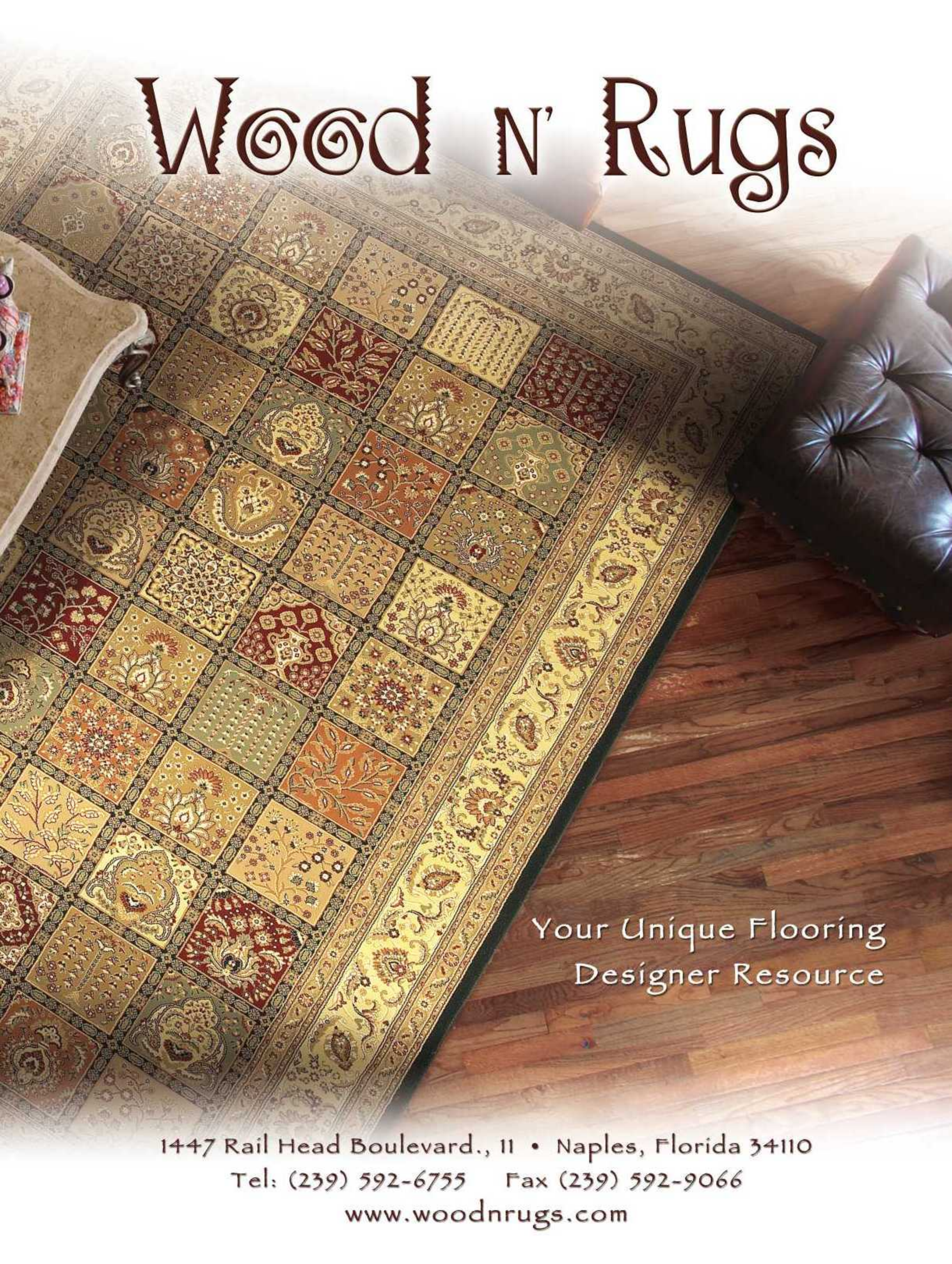
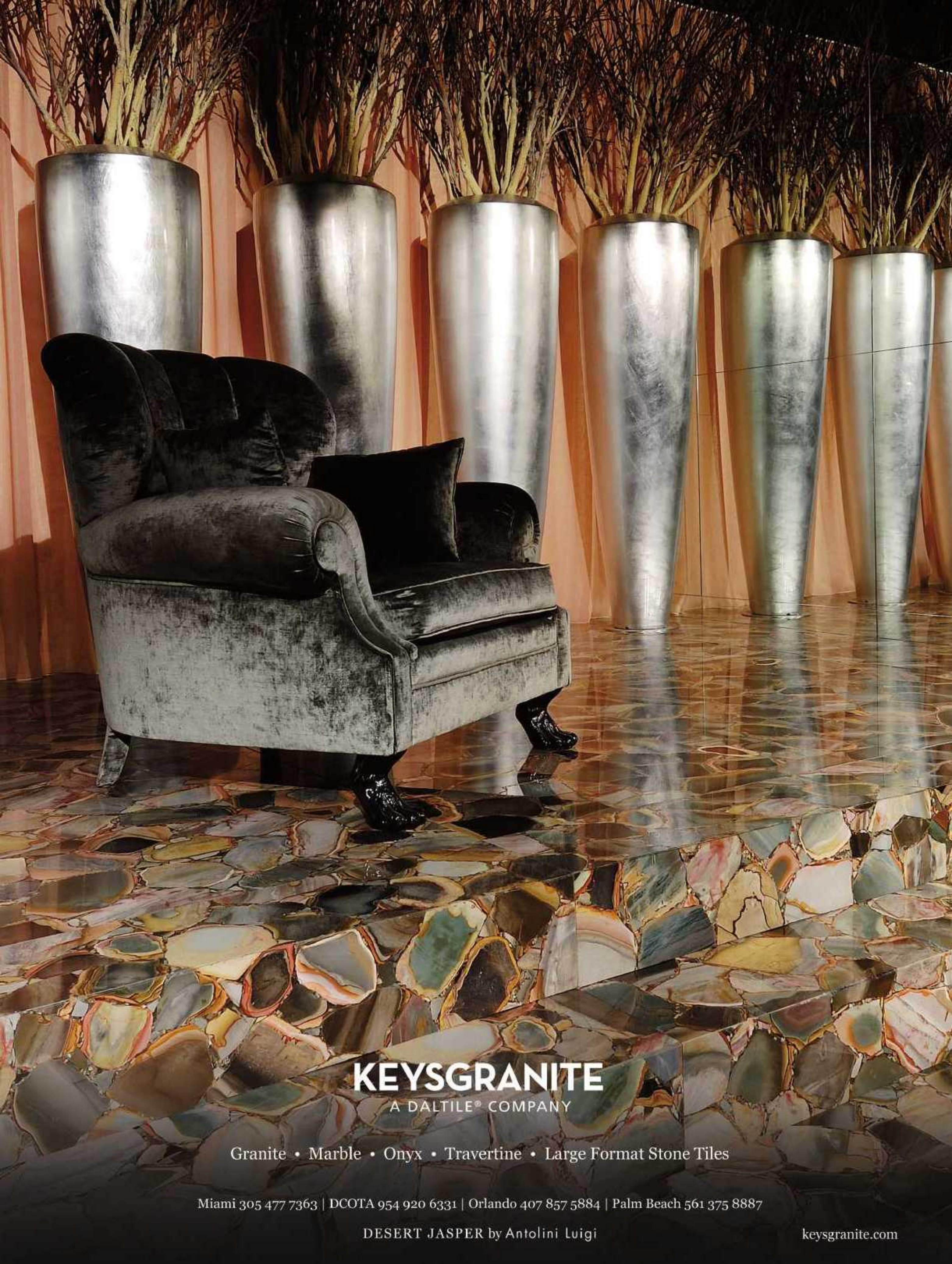

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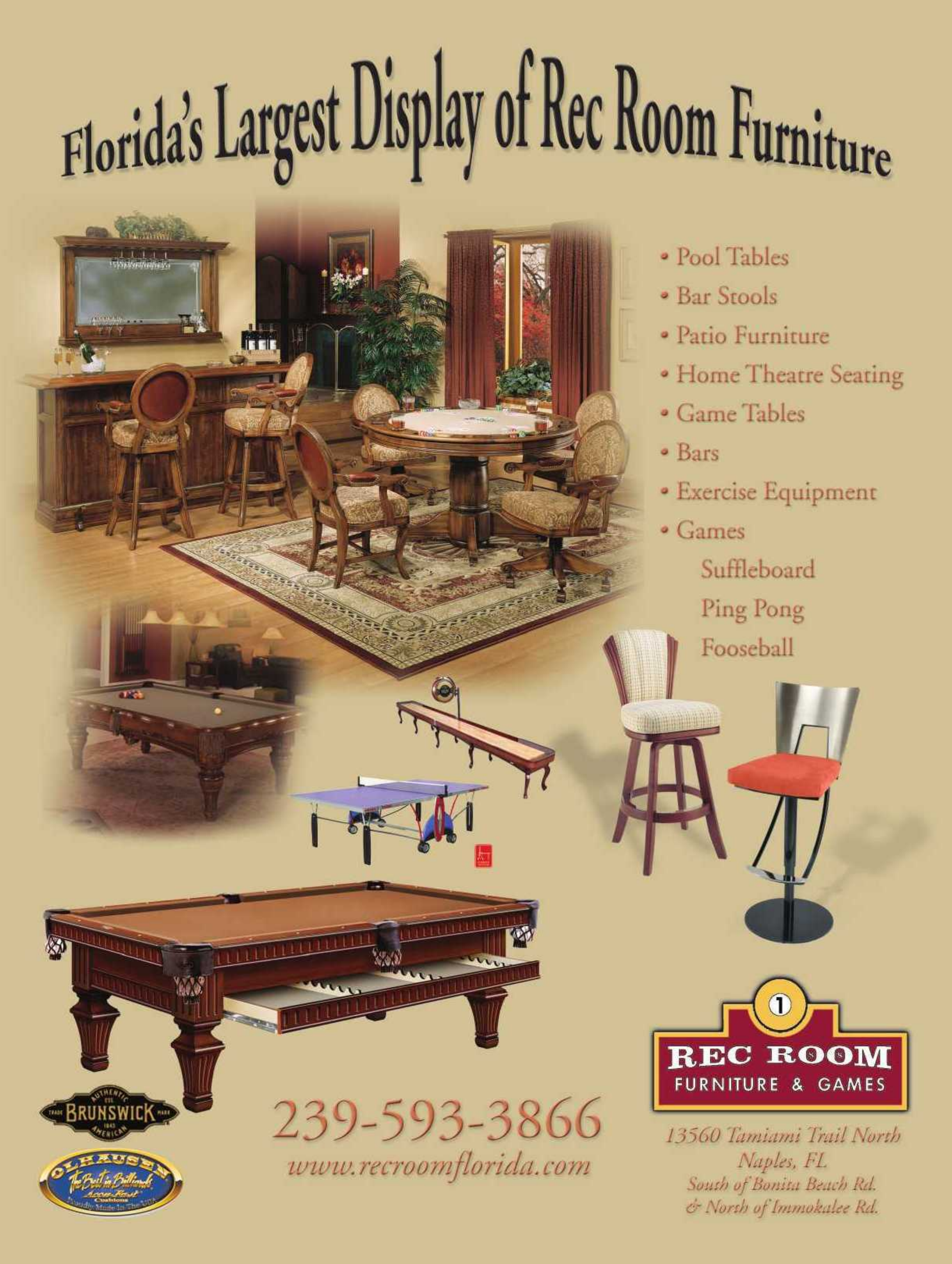
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After photo of Room Addition Courtesy of the Lykos Group

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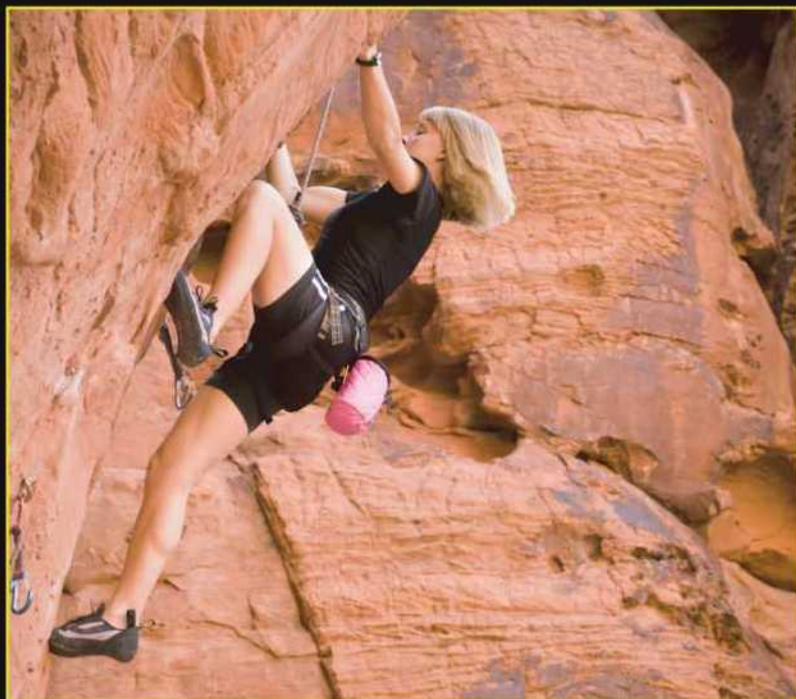




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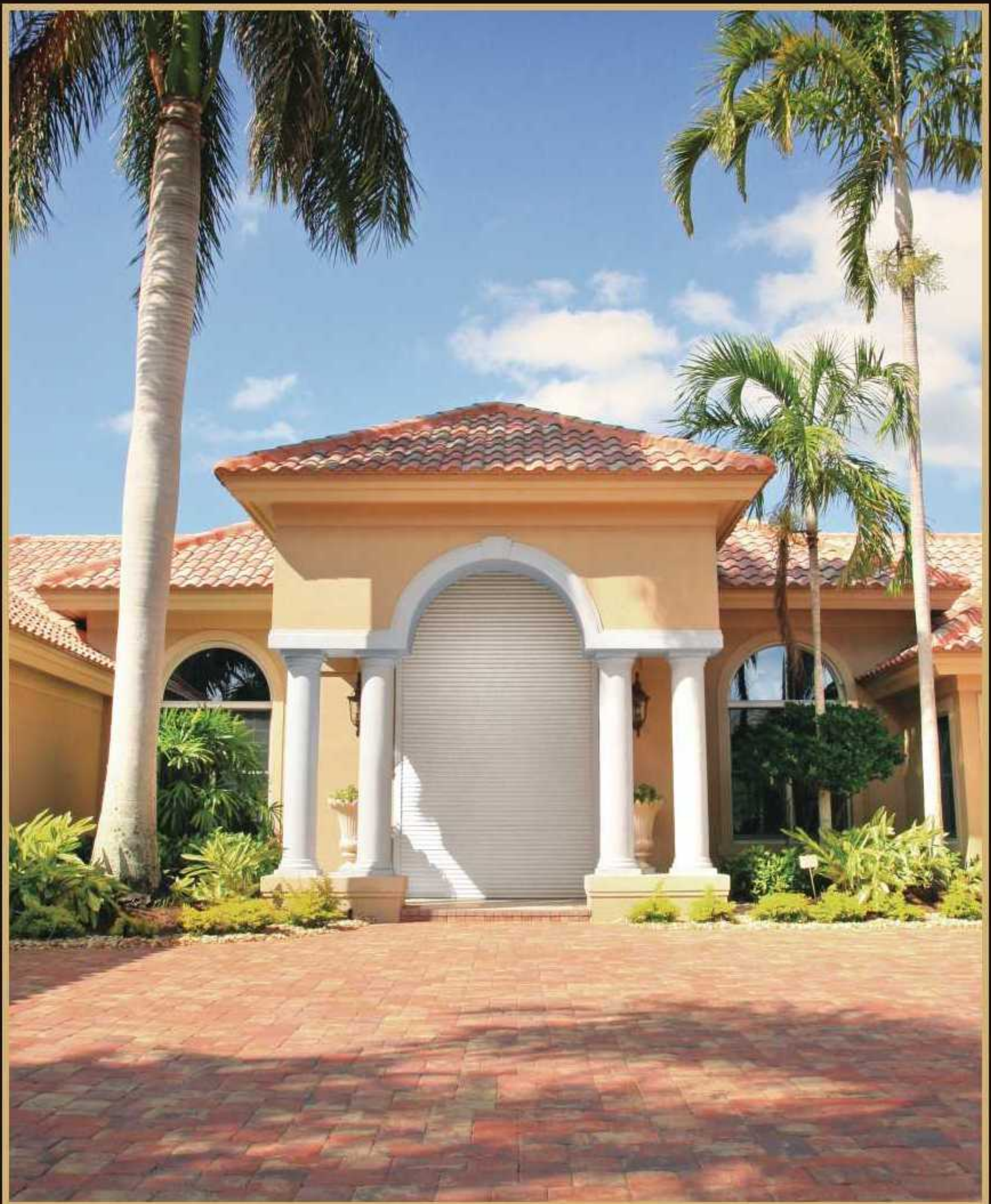
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"People are spending more time than ever in their homes," says Owner Steve Weichelt. "Our customers want more than just convenience and utilitarianism in their rooms, but a sense of luxury and comfort, along with wonderful details and artistry. Our company provides all these things and we are delighted to have received many testimonials from our customers. We are proud to share them with prospective customers."

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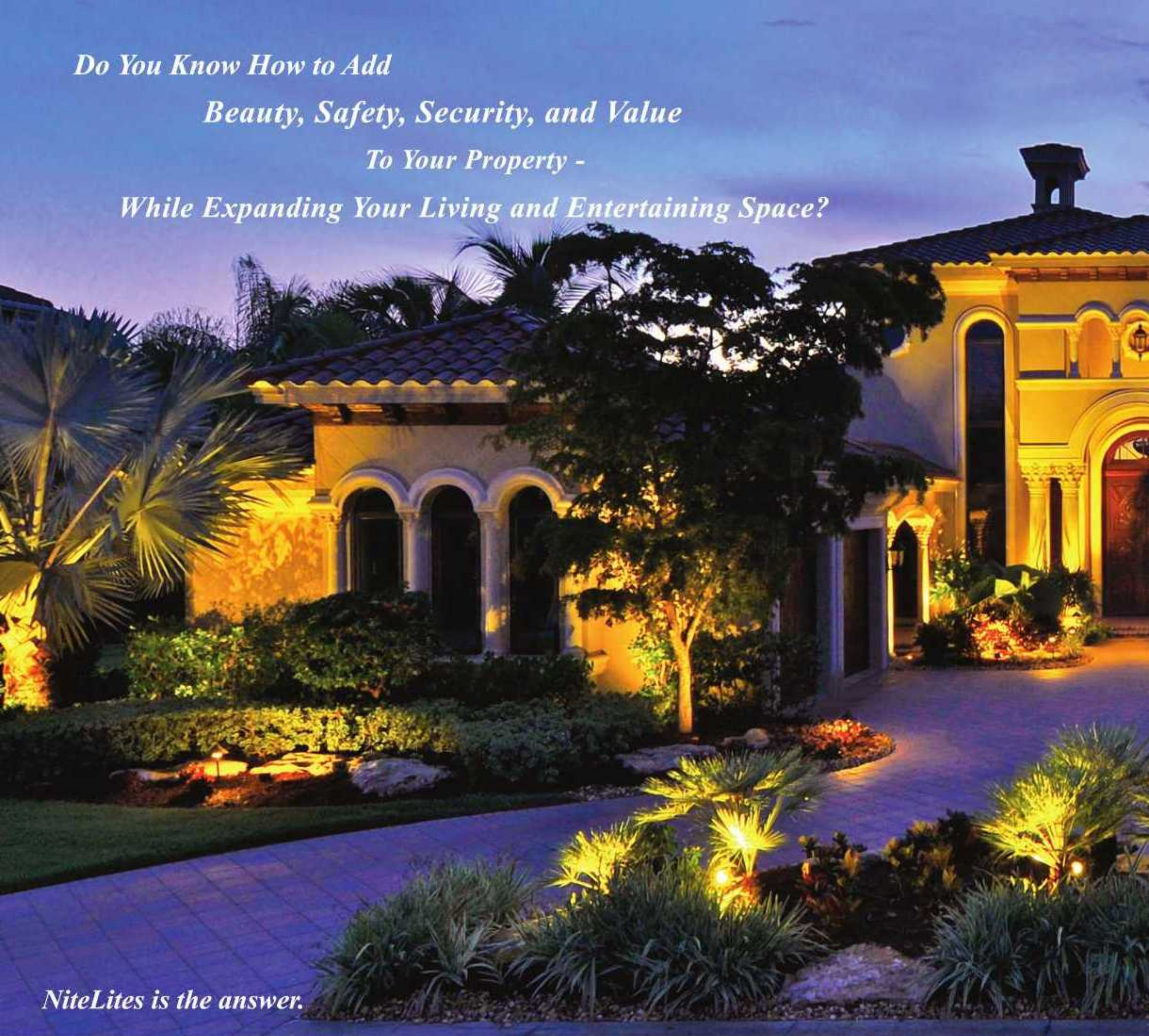
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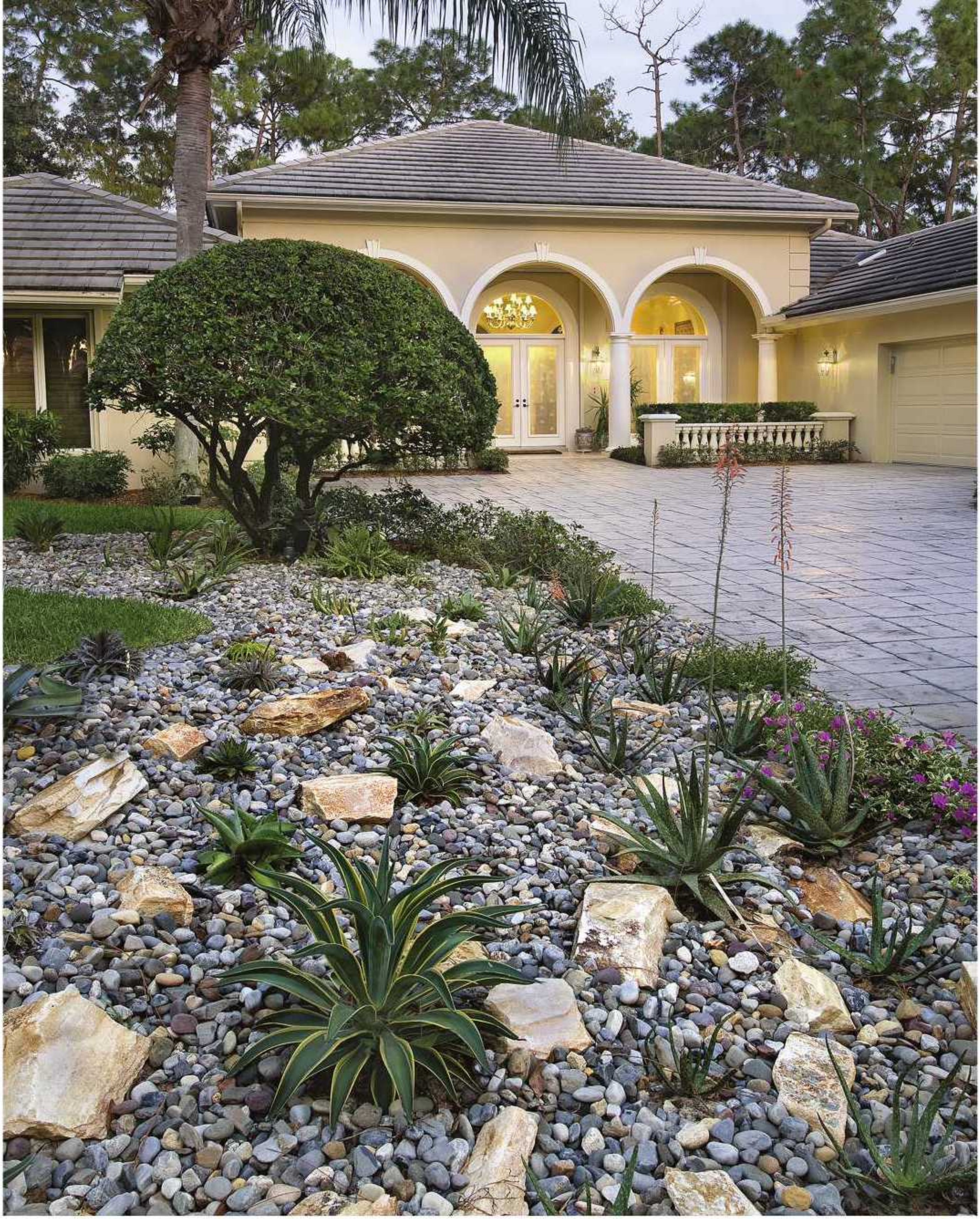





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Blended Gardens: Extra Dry, On The Rocks, & Straight Up

At the annual Naples' Garden Club House & Garden Tour on February 9th, attendees will have the opportunity to view the brilliantly blended interiors and gardens of some of Naples' fabled homes. No martinis will be served, but attendees' thirst for creativity will surely be quenched with all the juicy decorating and landscaping inspiration offered. Tickets are $65 per person for the guided bus tour and may be purchased by calling the Naples Garden Club at (239) 262-1272. Proceeds from the ticket sale benefit local charities.

The gardens shown here prove that there are as many ways to create delicious gardens as there are recipes for great martinis. Take the basic ingredients, combine with unique additions, shake them up, garnish and enjoy the results.

PREVIOUS PAGE – Xeriscaping with drought tolerant cactus and succulent plants is useful in Southwest Florida where watering restrictions are frequent. These low-growing *Bougainvillea Blueberry and Cream* in the foreground add color and frame the driveway.



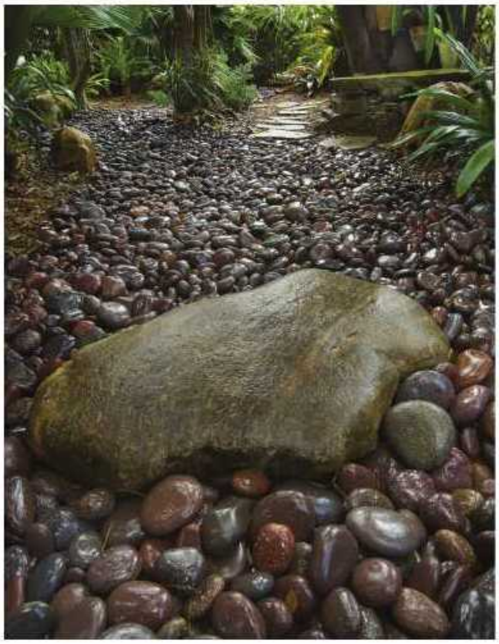
Actually well-made dry gardens can look quite lush and hold a rich array of plants.

EXTRA DRY

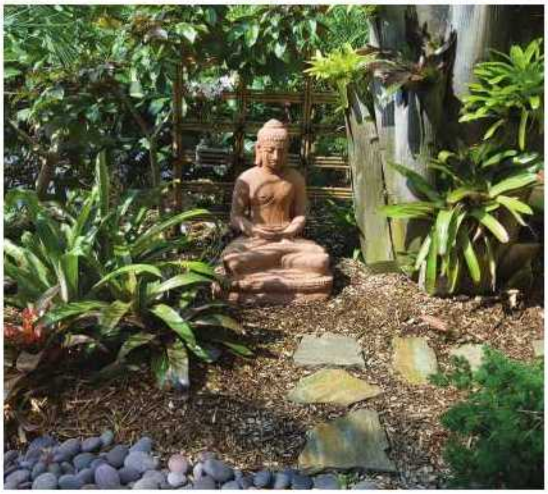
For many gardeners, the term "dry garden" evokes images of near-empty beds and austere gravel sweeps. But xeriscaping works wonders and is kind to the earth by using less water.

Using different sized plants and focal points, the "water" draws viewers into the space and encourages them to contemplate different layers of the garden.





Large and small stones glisten after a morning shower. These elements are often revealed on different levels.



Buddha next to Oil Palm, *Attalea Cohune* with bromeliads tucked in "boots" where fronds have been trimmed. Ming Fern, *Asparagus Densiflorus 'Myriocladus'* in foreground. Native Palm, *Pseudophoenix Sargentii* on left. *Jatropha* over-hanging bamboo fence.

ON THE ROCKS

An Asian garden is a very purposeful sparse arrangement of shrubs and trees, with meticulously placed rocks, water and garden elements. Bridges in Asian gardens extend a path over real or suggested water and are positioned to be seen at a pleasing angle from the primary viewing area. The purpose of the garden is to capture nature and become a quiet place for reflection or meditation; a place that offers tranquility and release from everyday stresses.





▲ A long shot of low water usage tropicals such as the *King Palm* and *Mexican Cycads Sagos*.

◀ A dimension is added with *Staghorn Ferns* and climbing *Philodendron* up in the trees.

STRAIGHT UP

The tropical garden theme is suitable for medium to large gardens. introducing wide sweeping beds and expanses of lush lawns and towering trees.

The *Pachypodium*, (the name *Pachypodium* comes from the Greek for "thick foot", in relation to the fact that most species are caudiciform, and have a bottle-shaped trunk,) is a robust succulent that rapidly responds to its growing environment and requires high levels of light. It combines well with the low-growing *Sansevieria Trifasciata Marginata "Jade Dwarf"*.





The bromeliad Aechmea "Del Mar" is a dwarf species that thrives in deep shade. It is also known as Dwarf Blue Tango.

Bromeliad Aechemea "Hacienda" grows to about two feet and requires no fertilization and little water. It blooms steadily throughout the year.



MASTER BLENDER

Dry gardens are just one of many styles of garden that are environmentally-sound. They offer year-round visual rewards in return for a moderate or minor expenditure of effort, time and money. It is important to find a landscaper who genuinely understands what sustainable garden design really means. Before hiring a garden designer, ask to see pictures of their work. If you like it, ask to tour some of the gardens you especially admired. Talk to the owners and ask about ongoing maintenance, plant loss and the overall success of the garden.



▲ Carefully placed rocks offer a grouping of *dwarf pink Anthurium* and *Dracaena marginata* "Tricolor."



◀ The bloom of an *aloe* adds color and height.

Alcantarea nahoumii, ▶ an impressive, large species recently discovered in Brazil, is very drought-tolerant and the flower is stunning with red bracts.





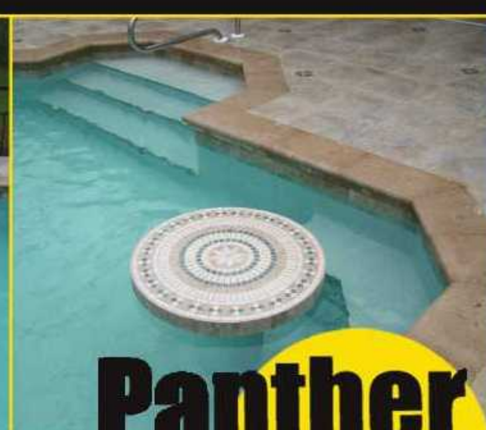
◀ *Bromeliad Harvey (Aechmea Little Harv)* has an impressive bloom and a beautiful variegated leaf. It grows to four feet and is a steady bloomer.

Written By Lydia Galton
Photography by Giovanni Photography
The Dry Garden and Tropical Garden in this article were designed by Thomas Hecker of EcoBotanic Designs, Inc. in Naples. For more information, visit www.ecobotanicdesigns.com.


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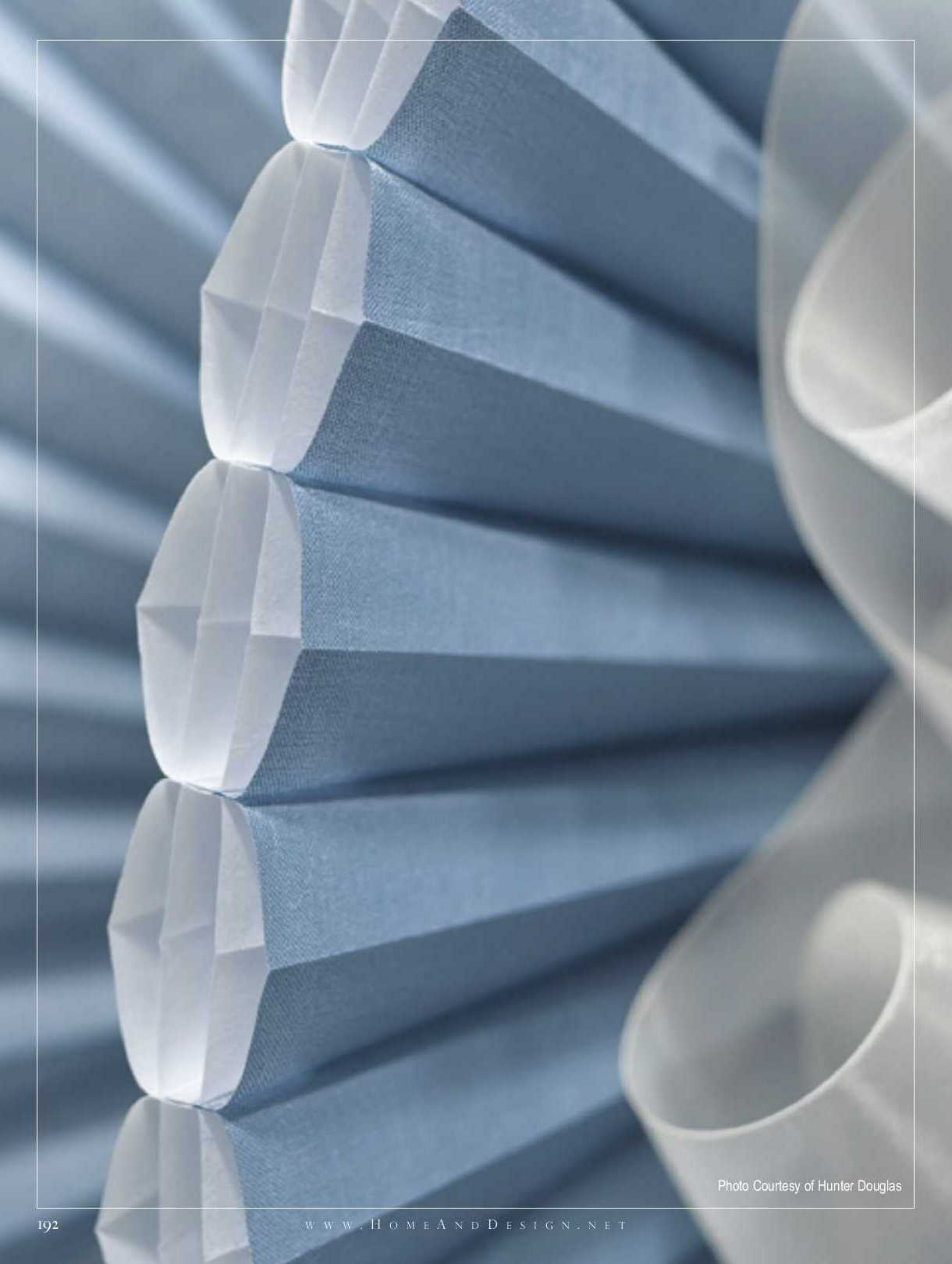


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